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## Where Some of Labor's Touble Lies.

### AND ITS POSSIBLE SOLUTION.

Educational Means for Enlightenment--Persuasive Measures for Adjustment of Mutual Interests--Conservative Views and Actions for the Accomplishment of the God-Given Rights, and the Full Realization of Man's Duty to His Brother Man--Not Slaves Under the Lash of a Hard Task Master.

In answer to an article in February number of the Electrical Worker, headed "Electrical Workers. Sensible and Timely Remarks by a Lightning Manipulator," having for its theme of discussion the following, verbatim et literatum. "The cry has been raised all over the country against the unlawful combinations, styled 'trusts,' whose purpose it is to centralize production; to minimize menial labor, and to substitute the machine for the workman."

Our purpose in replying to this article is to continue the discussion on some of the points raised by the writer, and, if possible, in our weak, feeble language to correct some wrong impressions which have crept in, thereby causing many thoughts of bitterness and distrust from both capital and labor; and also to broaden our field of usefulness by availing ourselves of the material and means at our command for the elevation of our own craft as well as the vast army of wage earners, who are dependent for their livelihood by earning their bread by the sweat of their brow, which is the com-

mon lot of mankind, according to the fulfillment of prophecy contained in "The Holy Writ."

We believe in the quotation from the Latin, "Labor omni vincet," (labor conquers all things) a quotation literally true only as long as labor is fostered along conservative lines, and by the sway of an example above reproach it will bring all with whom it comes in contact to a harmonious blending of mutual interests.

The divine injunction that man should earn his bread by the sweat of his brow

until he return to earth settled for all time, as far as this world is concerned, the foundation for a class of beings who, being endowed with reason, should command the respect of his fellows, no matter what station in life, from the king to the peasant, or the president to the man in the ditch, and, according to our Constitution, it being in touch with the great fundamental principles contained in the Bible that all men are created free and equal, having certain inalienable rights, we find that this army of wage-workers have a foundation

of colossal magnitude, and all that remains is to stand by the principles of frugality and honesty; the question of the duty of man to man will at once be settled.

When we speak of capital we speak of our brother who, by shrewd business tact or otherwise, has gained a few more dollars than his horny-fisted brother who works at the bench or climbs the pole; but he is only human just the same as us, and we are bound to treat him as such, as he is bound to acknowledge us in a like manner, for tenacity and disrespect should not enter within this circle of friendship, which is the mutual principle of operation. One could not exist without the other. But there has been at some times and some places an unnecessary rupture between these two great factors in human progress, which has temporarily separated the vital elements of our nation as well as the world in general, and as the world steals on there seems a tendency to still widen a chasm which should have been bridged long ago by a mutual understanding, which was a misunderstanding; bridging for-

ever over the pitfalls to which humanity is heir, raising all above the lower level of man's evil nature, he would be gazing from an eminence pre-eminent above all, and would command the homage due for the noble effort to restore that harmony which should exist.

We should not look upon capital as a great green-eyed monster, ready to swallow up the one who labors just because it is capital; there must be a fountain head from whence supplies must issue. Capital furnishes this; and also there is the demand for support which labor must have that it may exist, as it is by the efforts of both that both live; but one must not take advantage of the other, for this is where the trouble lays; and where it began. It is but a few years that the struggle has lasted, but it is not a one-sided affair; we are bound to admit this.

We believe a workman should do an honest day's toil, as his time belongs to his employer and in turn receive just and full compensation for every hour and minute of time while so employed. With this state of affairs there is a mutual agreement, and all things will run smoothly, but when the employer doubts there must be some reason, and he at once proceeds to levy a cut without consultation on the grievance, which is his privilege, but that is wrong, as you will see from both sides, as their interests are mutual; one furnishes material and means, the other brains and labor, and so the trouble begins at this point, both are firm in their belief that they have done all right; then, possibly, labor will enter a protest against this levy, and to overcome his condition it is carried to outsiders and noised about that which could have been talked over and adjusted in a satisfactory manner. Then organization is dragged into it, and bluffs are exchanged by both capital and labor, and the first thing we will find we have a strike on our hands, and all brought about by ignorance and breach of duty and obligation, one with the other. This is where both must be educated to the point of equality of rights and privileges, for this lack has caused the great and fatal mistake; and why so much trouble and bloodshed has been the result, where should reign the most fraternal feelings, for labor must awaken to its own enlightenment; it is the principle of life, that of advancement. She is the moving and ruling power of the world, whether enthroned or not, and must set the example, as she can, that all may follow; not driven slaves.

From time immemorial labor has had but few clean breasted leaders, and has lacked thorough organization, which is synonymous with centralization in capital, and is the proper foundation for both, and the only requisite to the life of both, and must be if success is to come to either.

Labor must organize that she speak as one man. Capital must centralize on account of economical operation outside of actual working expenses and the fierce competition, as capital has its foes and cut throats as well as labor. The main trouble does not come from the union ranks, but from the non-union and the traitors, who gain admission to unions, but are soon weeded out by natural processes.

The spirit of labor when crushed has been in many cases that of rebellion on account of unfair discriminations, but she is beginning to realize that is not the rational way. She is now favoring arbitration. But she must go farther than that and use the very plans that capital uses, that of concerted action. When capital wishes to gain in a point to outstrip its competitors, it gathers its money together in large blocks and reduces the cost of production by machinery, and forces the small fish to go in their *æsopagus* against protest; then there is one purpose. Labor's trouble is that she is divided into several organizations having opposing principles, and that is why labor has not accomplished more than she has. What must be done is she must have one mighty purpose founded on true principles, or the day will be lost. We need have no fear of the word trusts or combinations, because every one born only hastens the day of the complete overthrow of this condition of affairs, and capital's realization that it really has a duty to its brother man, that is a sacred thing, and which will find its expression only when labor is educated to the same point, then and then only will this be possible, but if labor does not awaken and still allows capital to take advantage of her, she will continue for a while, but the end will come and the reckoning will be a sore one for both, therefore it behooves every union man to do his duty, be true to principle, honest, fair and square, and try to educate his weak brother and win him from his state of ignorance into the light and liberty which should be the priceless boon for true effort to elevate the conditions of mankind, then will capital realize that the true mechanic looks out for his interests as he would himself, and he will surely pay more money for a man of that stamp; reduced means that; better work means higher wages; higher wages means better workmen; better workmen means better prices on manufactured articles, and that means more money in the dividends, which would furnish a positive basis for the payment of higher wages. Say you say nay?

Labor would at least be benefited by better wages, for the more money received would give a better status of operation to start from that he may build for that "rainy day" which comes to every man. It remains for labor to educate capital to what it should do, then strikes will disappears

and the great heart of mankind will throb in rhythm in the realization of a complete understanding of the duty of man to man, and which will only be accomplished by conservative means, as they alone will win, but labor must lead until she has brought capital into the same pace, because she was the first thing in the world, and if this be the case she is the parent and capital the son, and if she is not able to control the child as a parent should it is a shame, but by proper judgment she can accomplish her ends, then step by step, brothers, until the dawn of the new era.

Yours in hope,

J. H. STOUFFER.

Pittsburg, May 8, 1899.

#### Bro. Harvey Burnett,

The subject of our first page illustration, Press Secretary of No. 18, Kansas City, Mo., was born in Alton, Ill., 31 years ago. Bro. Burnett lost both of his legs when but a boy, being only eight years old at the time. Bro. Burnett is all pluck and nerve and is *Union* to the core. He has been in many cities, having passed back and forth between San Francisco and New York thirteen times, finally settling in Kansas City. Bro. Burnett is an armature winder by trade but will not work at it here as the Street Ry. only wants to pay \$1.50 to \$1.75 per day and he says he will sell gum on the street and do what little odd electrical jobs he can catch before he will work for such wages. Bro. Burnett has had several good positions, being at one time motor inspector of the Street Railway Co. of Milwaukee. Bro. Burnett is a hustler and has never asked for aid. He never tires working all day and part of the night to support his family, of which he boasts with pardonable pride. His family consists of a wife and little girl. Bro. Burnett's wife was a Miss Kenney, of Milwaukee. Bro. Burnett has done quite a lot of electrical work here, having wired quite a number of business houses, put in window lights, etc. When he has no electric light or bell wiring on hand you will see him on the corner of Ninth and Main; or 908 Main St., selling gum.

To make a long story short Bro. Burnett would like to get a pair of artificial legs and has always been too nervous to ask any one for aid, but I would ask for aid on behalf of the brother and think him deserving of same. While Bro. Burnett is not a member of No. 2, still No. 2 has started the ball rolling by donating \$5.00 in behalf of Bro. Burnett. Which Local will respond next? Brothers, I believe the amount, should you respond, would not be missed and would be a blessing to those who donate. Send all contributions to Brother

C. H. ADAMS, 2nd V.P.,

2901 Summit St.,  
Kansas City, Mo.

P. S.—Each Local will be credited in the Worker each month, also all individual members. Come Brothers and help us.

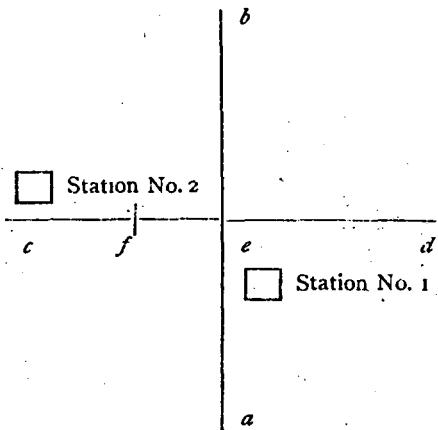
### QUESTION BOX.

Rochester, N. Y., June 1.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In a recent issue of your valued paper I noticed a query from one of the brothers about feeder connections at the crossing of two trolley lines, so arranged that they shall be equally divided between the two distant power houses. It seems to me that he did not state the conditions he was working under with sufficient exactness for a definite and exact answer, and the rest of the Brotherhood must have thought so also, as I have not yet noticed any answer.

In a general way it would be proper to connect the two power houses with a feeder (without taps to the trolley or subfeeders) in the same way as the equalizing wire is run between two direct current generators that are to be operated in multiple. The distance in this case would probably put such an equalizing feeder out of the question, and in any case, as I understand the conditions, the brother who sprung the problem on us, simply wanted to know how to connect his present feeds together at the crossing. I have in mind three schemes.



First—If the load on each of the four arms (or legs if you prefer) of the system is approximately equal there is no objection to tapping the four feeds all together, supposing, of course, that the trolleys are all positive to the rails, or of same polarity at least.

This is the simplest thing to do and under certain conditions the best thing also.

I should like to ask the brother if the two roads are operated by one company. If they are it would seem that a great improvement in the maintaining of equal potential over the entire system would be effected by making the crossing a centre of distribution (or "disturbance," as Bro. Brèese would say), and having a feeder to it from each station, no taps to be placed on either from stations to crossing and the

voltage to be regulated by pressure wires from this centre to each station instead of regulating by the voltage at each switchboard. This would keep your maximum pressure always constant at the crossing, and with equal loads the drop in potential would be equal along each line to the extreme ends, or if voltage at *e*, fig. I was 550, and at *d* 475, with same number of cars running on each branch the voltage would be also 475 at *a*, *b* and *c*.

Second—Supposing the conditions were such that it was desirable to have station No. 1 take care of half of the load on road *c**d* in addition to its own load on road *a**b*, then feeder *ed* should be cut loose from feeder *ce* and connected to feeder *a**b*, a modification of this scheme would be a double throw switch at *e* to change feeder *ed* during hours of heavy load on road *c**d* and to throw *ed* back onto *ce* and station No. 2 during hours of light load on road *c**d* or of heavy load on *a**b*.

Third—Connect a tap from feeder *a**b* and run same along road *c**d* to point *f*, to be located by calculating the drop in feeder *c**d* and which would divide the load on line from *f* to *d* proportionately between the two stations. For the sake of illustrating the idea I have located point *f* at an arbitrary point between *c* and *e*, but of course this might come at some point between *e* and *d*, but probably would not be far from crossing *e*.

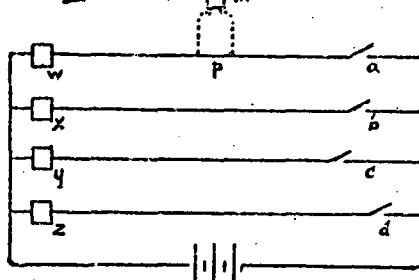
In case the two roads are operated by separate companies a wattmeter could be introduced in tap from *e* to *f* and current No. 1 station is furnishing to help out No. 2 station could be easily ascertained.

Very truly,  
FRED'K FISH.

Rochester, N. Y.  
Editor Electrical Worker:

I should like a little space this month to tell your readers about another way to wire for an auxiliary bell to ring with one drop only of an annunciator. We will suppose that buttons *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* operate drops *w*, *x*, *y* and *z* on an ordinary house annunciator, and an auxiliary bell is wanted to ring when push *a* is closed.

Fig. II.



We cut lead *on* at a convenient point, as at *p* in sketch and run wires from the two ends thus obtained to bell *m*. Now if this bell is single stroked so that the bell on

the annunciator breaks the circuit for both itself and *m*, then *m* will ring whenever *a* is pressed, but at no other time, and there cannot be any "sneak current," to throw drop *w* when any of the other buttons are pressed.

The advantage of this method is that you do not have to make a special contact for button *a* and have no additional lead to run to *m* from button *a*.

Very truly,  
FRED'K FISH.

Bannack, Mont., June 4, 1899.  
Editor Electrical Worker:

A 500-volt direct current is run in two iron pipes which are in direct contact with very wet ground. Wire A is grounded. On touching wire B, after disconnecting supply, a considerable charge can be felt when standing on the ground.

To what is charge in wire B due, induction being impossible, there being no other wires near? Leakage across switchbase is also out of the question, as wires were taken out of terminals of switch.

ALBERT UHL,  
Local 65.

### WHY IS THIS?

When the land is full of workers,  
Busy hands and active brains;  
When the craftsmen and the thinkers  
Feel about them binding chains;  
When the laborers are cheated  
Of the work their hands have wrought,  
And the thinker, vain of logic,  
Sees that reason comes to naught.  
  
When the forces men have harnessed,  
And have trained to do their will,  
Ought to leave no homeless people,  
And no hungry mouths to fill;  
But have proved to be the servants  
Of the shrewd and selfish few,  
And the many get but little  
For the work they find to do.  
  
When the labor of a million  
Goes to swell the gains of one,  
As the serfs of ancient Egypt  
Slaved beneath a burning sun.  
When the schemer and the sharper  
Hold the wealth and rule the land,  
Using up the thinkers brain force,  
Mortgaging the craftsman's hand.  
  
When the many shear the sheep  
And the few secure the wool,  
When the gallows claims its victims  
And your costly jails are full;  
Then the men who dreamed of progress,  
And the hopes of peace and bliss,  
While they weep and wonder vainly,  
Ask each other "Why is this?"  
  
Then the thinker, while confessing  
That his vision yet is dim,  
Says that one thing, very clearly,  
Is apparent unto him—  
That the people, blind and heedless,  
Place themselves beneath the rule,

Either of the knavish schemer  
Or, still worse, the sodden fool.  
And the toiler toils forever,  
That the rich may richer get,  
For the burden of his day song  
Is "We are caught within the net  
Of the men who have our souls bought,  
Whose slaves we are to-day,  
If we struggle, deeper sink we  
In the mire and the clay."  
Let us ask ourselves the question,  
Pray, neighbors, "Why is this?"  
"ANN ARKIST."



UNCLE TOM, OF 38, CLEVELAND, O.

BOSTON CENTRAL LABOR UNION.  
Boston, May 23, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

The undersigned, a committee authorized by the Central Labor Union of Boston, Mass., to solicit aid for the support of the strike now in progress at Marlboro, Mass., appeals for your sympathy and support. Ten local unions of shoe workers, numbering 3,000, have been on strike for the past twenty-one weeks, defending the right to maintain their organizations.

The employers seek to establish what they call "free shops," properly called slave pens, and insist that they treat only with individuals.

Two of the employers (Mr. Rice and Mr. Howe) at a banquet held in Boston, November 21st, declared it to be their intention to "smash the American Federation of Labor," and likened the unions unto the Ku Klux of the south.

We are led to appeal to you at this time in the hope that you will assist the men and women who are making one of the most, if not the most, heroic struggles in defense of the rights of organized labor ever made in this country, and that we may awaken your interest to the extent that you will contribute at least a sum equal to two cents or more per member

per month from your union while the strike continues.

The strikers are so enthusiastic and confident of their ultimate success that it would be the rankest shame if organized labor failed to appreciate the sacrifices now being made by these noble men and women who are defending a principle most dear to every true trade unionist.

If you can possibly take up a few dollars which can be contributed to this worthy cause then do so quickly, and send returns to D. D. Driscoll, 987 Washington street, Boston, Mass.

Fraternally yours,  
FRED J. KNEELAND,

Chairman.

P. S.—Do not be deceived by any article that may appear in the press stating that the strike in Marlboro is settled; that is but a part of the scheme of the manufacturers to defeat the strike.

Marlboro, Mass., May 11, 1899.  
To Whom it May Concern:

The shoe manufacturers of Marlboro, Mass., and their emissaries are circulating the report that the strike which has been on in that city for the past six months is over.

We wish to inform you that this strike was entered into on the 12th of last November to defend the right of the men and women workers in that city to hold membership in their respective organizations, and up to this time (26 weeks) the manufacturers have not conceded that right, and the strike is just as much on as ever, and will so continue until that right is established, but not in the manner conceded by the employers, who say, "We concede your right to belong to the union, but you will not work for us while enjoying that privilege."

It is true, some of our people who have made this noble struggle in defense of their organization have applied for work, but instead of being honored for the sacrifices which they made in defense of what they considered their rights, they are in many cases insulted by those in authority at the various factories, and in no case has there been the least disposition shown to recognize the organization, and the necessities of those who apply for work is made the opportunity for venting the pent-up spleen of petty bosses.

The Marlboro Enterprise, the official mouthpiece of the employers' association, makes merry over their appreciation of the effects of the boycott, characterizing it as the best kind of advertising, while at the same time all kinds of moves are being made to have the boycott lifted.

Since it is such a good thing, and they are so delighted with its beneficial effects, there is no vote that may be taken in Marlboro which can make clean the unfair manufacturers of that city, therefore, the

general organization of the Boot & Shoe Workers' Union and the American Federation of Labor will only raise the boycott when there is a complete recognition of the right to organize and maintain unions.

We have still over 2,000 people who have been in this contest all through, and who are in destitute circumstances, who can only be succored by the contributions of their more fortunate friends in the trade unions, and we appeal to you to contribute money at once. Send all moneys to B. P. Dorsey, Secretary-Treasurer, 198A Main street, Marlboro, Mass.

Every effort should be made to locate the products of the Rice & Hutchins firm, whose goods are stamped "Rice and Hutchins," and who have factories in "Rhode Island State Prison," "Warren, Me.," "Kennebunk, Me.," "Rockland, Mass.," "South Braintree, Mass.," "Worcester, Mass.," and three factories in Marlboro, Mass. Return the compliment for their boycott upon organized labor by refusing to purchase boots or shoes unless they bear the label of the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union impressed upon the inner or outer sole. Per order,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE JOINT COUNCIL NO. 8.

JOHN J. DALTON,  
PHILIP J. BYRNE,  
AUG. WHELAN,  
BERNARD P. DORSEY,  
JOHN H. MURRAY,  
WILLIAM LAVERTY.

More of Our Troubles.

Salinas City, Cal., June 1, 1899.  
Editor Electrical Worker:

Again I am constrained to write a few lines to keep the working class posted upon a gross insult to American labor. Can any one wonder that we should organize, and can we be called criminals because we do? The miners' trouble in Idaho is the fault of the mine owners, not the workers. Do people look into the true cause of strikes? Is it not because the men are not treated fair? Everything is being concentrated by gigantic formation of trusts, sanctioned by the present government at Washington, D. C. Who produces the wealth of this nation or any other? The world at large does not deny that the hand of labor is the cause of all wealth. Well, then, if we make wealth we should have some of it. The farmer raises grain, but the gambler on stock bonds makes the price. Is that right? Only a few days ago the iron and steel industries of the United States were consolidated for \$600,000,000, simply to control the markets, put up the price of the commodity and keep down the price of labor. Another case of glaring injustice comes from Copperopolis, Cal., a once thriving city. The copper combine has closed down the mines, and 1,000 men are

thrown out of employment, without a shadow of a chance to get work. Some who are unmarried can leave the place, but those who have wives and babies depending on them, what of them? What will they do? "To hell with them" says the capitalist. "The public be damned," said Vanderbilt. "If they haven't bread let them eat cake," said Marie Antoinette of France, and so it goes.

And now the governor of Idaho says it should be a punishable crime to belong to or organize a labor union. Well, if so, it should be just as much a crime for the wealthy class to organize to control the output of necessities of life. "What is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander." This is, according to our "beloved Constitution," a free country, and the laws are made for one and all; but if you have the proper amount of cash you can break the laws with impunity and steal millions, but should you be so foolish as to be poor and should appropriate a ride on a freight train, to prison with you, and yet you have not taken a penny's worth of goods.

If some of you think this can go on forever you are mistaken. The trend of the times points out the way through socialism and education. I firmly believe the railroads, telephone and telegraph monopolies should be owned by the government, and all cities should own their own water, gas, electric and street railway plant. If the government can control the mails, it can control all other things. It pays annually enough money to railroads for carrying mail to buy and pay for all the tracks in twenty-five years, and furnishes its own messengers. If the railroads makes millions the government will not only make the same but save millions now paid for carrying mail. Look at the millions made by the express companies alone, and yet the common people fought in and are now fighting in the war, yet we, the people, must pay the war tax and the "bloated" stockholder of Wells, Fargo, American and United States Express Companies pay not a cent of war tax. Is that right? The general manager says yes.

I am now going to say something that might hurt a few of your feelings, and I hope you will wake up and say the Ann Arkist is right. I hope the day will come, and right soon, too, that the working men of America will have their wages cut 5 per cent. a day every day in the week and every week in the year till you are actually obliged to steal and beg, and then you will awaken and listen to the voice of reason. Reason says organize, join a labor union, make a stand for your rights, kick until you get them, then maybe you will see the advantage of the government owning the great monopolies which are now sucking the life and strength of the people of this country.

And now a few words about the Pacific

coast. I have said before now something about doing away with prison labor. Well, in the third week of May two murders were committed in California prisons by men who should have been hung years ago on general principles, but who are kept fat and well dressed and always on the lookout to stick a knife in a guard. The gross miscarriage of justice in dealing with such men will lead to people taking the law (Lynch law) in their own hands, hanging the criminal, and also hanging a few jurors and some of the judges, persons who do nothing the year round but sit on juries and disagree on the technicalities, regardless of the fact that 1 or 1,000 good witnesses saw the crime committed, and ought to be hung by mobs of infuriated taxpayers. Thousands upon thousands of dollars are wasted every year by lenient judges, quibbling shysters and dishonest juries. Well, what are you going to do about it? As I said, if you have money you can get free, but the Lord help you if you happen to be a worker. Wake up ye sleepy sluggards; get up and be doing. The democrats and republicans are now getting the barrel filled, and their hand is ready to pat you on the back and tell you how much they think of you, (for your vote only) and then do you dirt after election. Elect your own class, tell them what they were elected for, and then if they don't do your behest and are not honest, make an example of them by Lynch law. A man is honest as long as he knows he is well watched, but given half a chance and good bye to him. You can pass pages of resolves and therefore, but eternal vigilance is your only hope for the price of liberty and pursuit of happiness. In California only the fools, workingmen and Chinamen pay \$4 per year for road and poll tax, the millionaires and tramps go free, and devilish little of the money so collected is put where it honestly belongs.

As I glance over my morning paper I read that the wages in the Western sugar refinery have been cut \$15 and \$20 per month on oilers and centrifugal workers. The last named workmen handle the sugar at the point where it is dried by extracting the syrup with the same process clothes are dried in a laundry. They only work twelve hours a day and thirty and thirty-one days a month, and if they don't like the cut they have the perfect right to quit and starve. There is no such thing as the working slave making every other man he deals with lower his rent or board. It's just work or quit, 10,000 men are ready to fill your place. If white men will not do it, then the Jap and opium-soaked Chinaman steps in, a strike follows, some property is destroyed, a few are shot in cold blood by the \$15 a month murderers called home guards, and the mill starts up and the general manager's dividend is still up to high water mark. The boss stockholder

goes to Europe, his daughter weds a titled blackleg and the hard earned money of the white slave is spent in paying the aforesaid titled B. L.'s debts.

I will write more next time if my ink holds out.

ANN ARKIST.

#### SUPPORTING THE UNION.

Members who stay away from their union meetings because they do not feel satisfied with the way matters are run, at the same time keeping up their membership by paying their dues, are doing themselves and their union an injustice. It is a duty they owe themselves and their union to attend the meetings, and by word and action to assist in seeing that things are run properly, at the same time giving due consideration to the fact that in the most perfectly regulated bodies things cannot always go to please everybody.

Obstructionists and would-be disruptors should not be tolerated, the members who stay away because of them, while the provocation is often great, are not showing a proper regard for the duty they owe their organization.

It is the seeming indifference of the stay-aways that increases the boldness and presumption of these disagreeable fellows until they come to think that those who stay away do so feeling that in their hands the union will be safe and that the other members are satisfied to let them be the "whole thing."

Members who are continually raising points of order, and blocking progress and occasioning dissatisfaction by exciting wrangles over constitutional technicalities, are a drawback and should be "sat down on" by the unions to which they belong.

Parliamentary law and constitutions are, as a rule, good things for the members to have knowledge of and to be guided by, but the member who would have the union run in strict conformity with them should learn that matters will often be better facilitated by the exercise of common sense.

—Birmingham Advocate.

#### Prediction of Tom L. Johnson.

Tom L. Johnson, the widely known street car magnate, in an interview is quoted as saying:

"The time is going to come when the people will ride free upon the street cars, run and operated by a municipality, the same as they now get their letters delivered to them by the postal system. Municipal control is as easily handled as governmental control. Politics would not be able to cut any figure. In every separate organization where the servants of the company, government or municipality are subject to examination by public sentiment where free access to the inner workings is made accessible, no corruption is found. It is only in the hidden byways that political chicanery can be possible."



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Subscription \$1.00 per year, in advance.

As The Electrical Worker reaches the men who do the work and recommend or order the material, its value as an advertising medium can be readily appreciated.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE, 1899.

W. N. Gates, Special Advertising Agent,  
29 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, O.



SPINNING PRINT, ROCHESTER.

Owing to the magnificent response from the locals we have been obliged to increase this issue to twenty-four pages.

THE Brotherhood has granted charters, since April 1, to Sioux City, Ia.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Norfolk, Va.; Richmond, Ind.; Scranton, Pa., and Cripple Creek, Colo.

BROTHER JAS. THISTLE, of Local 44, was very seriously injured June 2nd. His spur pulled out, allowing him to strike a step. Here is that you may soon be out again, Jim.

IN this month's issue we print the picture of Brother Harvey Burnett, an electrical worker without legs, who is desirous of getting an artificial pair. Members wishing to help this Brother along will kindly send all money to Brother Adams, Second Vice-President, 2901 Summit St., Kansas City, Mo.

BROTHER ED. STINSON, of Local 45, Buffalo, severed his connection with the Bell Telephone Co. to accept a position as superintendent for the new Telephone Co. at Rochester. Bro. Stinson is recognized

as one of the very best in the telephone business, and we think the company made a good selection. Here's wishing you success, Ed.

At the request of a great many readers of the Electrical Worker, we have this month produced the picture of Uncle Tom, (Mr. Thomas Wheeler, of Local 38). Uncle Tom is one of the shining lights of Local 38, and is well known in the Labor movement in the State of Ohio. He was delegate to our last convention held in Detroit, and was chosen delegate to the Workingmen's convention recently held at Columbus. Uncle Tom, while not an eloquent speaker, is very convincing and holds his listeners very well, but is more of a worker than a talker.

THE press secretary of Local No. 40, in his letter this month, wants the Editor to explain why members of the Brotherhood have to pay one dollar and twenty cents a year for the Electrical Worker, when the subscription price is one dollar. The brother is wrong. The members of the Brotherhood do not pay one dollar and twenty cents, they pay sixty cents; the per capita tax is twenty cents on each member per month, of which fifteen cents goes to the General Fund of the Brotherhood and five to the Worker. Twelve times five are sixty, so outside subscribers pay forty cents more.

THE ROBERT WRIGHT FUND.

In our last issue we made what we then thought our last appeal for Robert Wright, but, at the request of a number of brothers, we have concluded to try again. It certainly should be possible to raise at least two hundred and fifty dollars to start the brother in business. There are a great many readers of this paper who have not put in their mite. Now come, boys, just a little ten-cent piece from each one will raise the amount. Bring the matter up for discussion in your locals and this can be accomplished. Do not let another month go by without raising the money. The amount now on hand is one hundred and forty-four dollars and thirty-two cents, contributed by the following:

Local No. 56		\$ 4 75
" 37		7 00
E. Rush		1 00
Local No. 45		19 50
" 41		9 30
" 38		15 00
" 5		4 52
" 72		2 50
" 4		25 25
" 6		7 75
" 18		5 00
" 49		6 25
A. Uhl		1 00
Local No. 71		9 50
F. White and gang		12 00
W. Call		14 00
Total		\$144 32

ISOLATED LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.

Some months ago we issued a charter to eight men in the city of Springfield, Ill. For a few months they paid the per capita tax and all was well. They became slack. We wrote them several times and received no answer. The secretary, like many others, failed to extend the common courtesy of an answer, but by diligent inquiry we learned that the local had gone out of existence and, Phoenix like, there had arisen from the ashes a little Brotherhood of their own—that a charter had been granted them from the State Federation. Right here we question the right of any State Federation granting a charter where there is a National body. There had been no complaint entered, not a word of dissatisfaction, but simply these men wanted a little Brotherhood of their own. In this state are as good union men as there are in any other state; just as good, no better, nor do they claim to be better. One of our very best locals is in that state, a local that has always remained true to the N. B. E. W. and we feel safe in saying always will. There have been times when perhaps certain things did not suit them, but there was never any seeds of discord sown in their ranks; never a word about forming a little Brotherhood of their own. But we find in the same state men who have jumped the Brotherhood simply because they could not have their own way, and why the central bodies of the large cities should seat these tramp organizations, we are at a loss to know. They elect delegates to attend the A. F. of L. convention, shout themselves hoarse advocating an undivided front, claiming we should be as one, that there should be no north, no south, no east or no west, but that we should be united in one grand Brotherhood, that the concern of one should be the concern of all. Then go back to their own cities and in a few weeks vote to seat some Molly McGuire organization. "O consistency, thou art a jewel!" Just as long as this goes on just so long will the workingmen of this country have a harder row to hoe. If these tramp organizers, these wandering Willies of the labor movement, say they left their national body because certain things were wrong, don't believe what they say, because all intelligent men know all wrongs can be righted. We hold conventions every two years, and two years is a short time in the history of an organization. There is a tramp organization in the largest city of this country and when asked a few weeks ago why they left the Brotherhood they answered because the National body refused to allow them certain death claims, a bare-faced lie, as any member of the E. B. who was in office at that time can certify to. These Molly McGuires knew that if they told the truth they would have a lame case, but, like some pettyfoggy

lawyer, when he sees the law is against him, he endeavors to win his case by foul means. There has never been a legitimate claim refused by this organization, so lying pretences of this kind don't go. Another one of these Washington know-it-alls had the nerve to say, the reason why they did not want to go in the Brotherhood was that it was filled up with inferior workmen. Ye Gods! All the good wiremen in this United States belong to a little isolated tramp organization which, like the wandering refugee, has no home, no affiliation with any one, but stands alone. Now this should not be tolerated, this is narrow-minded unionism; this is what the boys call home guard unionism. Why Mr. Isolated Union Man, if you take a notion to travel, it is then your finish comes. Your card that did you good becomes useless, not worth the paper it is printed on. Our Brotherhood has a card that is good from Boston to California, a card that has procured employment for a great many of our members. A card that has done service as a railroad ticket, for any good railroad man will give a fellow playing in hard luck a ride, with a good up to date Brotherhood card. Organizations that are formed by malcontents to satisfy their own selfish aims cannot prosper, they may hold the balance of power for awhile, but the foundation is weak and rotten and sooner or later the entire structure must totter and fall. Every man working at the electrical business should be under one banner of right and justice—a broad-minded Brotherhood looking to the welfare of the civilized globe, a Brotherhood that is willing to extend its hand across the sea and say to our brothers, your interest is my interest, we must come together, form a workingman's alliance and with old Glory and the Union Jack, the two prettiest flags kissed by the sun, flying side by side and an International Brotherhood, we must succeed. Let us hope that this is in the near future; let us hope the isolated men will see the error of their way and come over to the fold.

#### A WORD TO THE CONTRACTOR.

We received a communication some time ago from a contractor, asking for information in regard to a charter. He said, although he was an employer of men, he thought a Union was a good thing and he advised his men to form a Local. This is the proper feeling for employers to have, for is it not an undisputed fact, better hours, better men; better wages, better men; better men, better work; better work, better name for the contractor; better name for him, better money—there you are! A contractor and his workmen have the same thing at stake. While the workingman is pounding away with muscle and skill he is thinking of his family at home and realizes every hour, every day,

every week, put in at good, fair wages, will bring comfort to those he loves. And the contractors who have their money invested are working for the wife and little ones at home; this makes them identical in as far as their livelihoods are concerned. Of course, we are forced to admit there are different kinds of contractors as well as different kinds of workmen.

Some contractors have the good and welfare of their workmen at heart to the extent that they want to pay the scale every time. There is no need in saying men don't appreciate this, for they certainly do, Mr. Contractor. How truly the words of the poet come home to the workingman, "a little word in kindness spoken, a motive or tear has often healed the heart that's broken and made a friend sincere," when his employer stops long enough to ask how his little boy or girl who was sick is getting along. Say, Mr. Contractor, he feels better for the asking and, ask yourself, don't you? The man who wants to impress on the minds of his employees that he is boss all the time, not allowing them any freedom, does not get the results that the man does who remembers that we are all human and must act in concert with each other to accomplish the desired ends. Here is success to the contractor who wishes his employees success.

#### MALCONTENTS IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT.

During the few months of 1899 there have been more strikes than at any other time for a great number of years, and as was expected we have had our share of trouble but we are pleased to say have been successful. It has been impossible for Locals to adhere to the Constitution, so each local that made demands knew what to expect. The trouble has been settled in every case to the entire satisfaction of the majority and this is all that could be asked, as this organization is run by majority rule. We know too well that it is a hard matter to please every one, so if we please the majority it is satisfactory; the malcontents no one can please, they cannot please themselves and there are times when they hate themselves. Take for example a recent trouble where a man of God, a Bishop, was asked to intercede for a body of men who had certain grievances. This good man, who was always respected by all who knew him, irrespective of creed, all knew when he undertook anything it was for the best interest of all concerned, in fact they placed implicit faith in him. He called the men together and gave them good advice, and through him the matter was settled not to the entire satisfaction of the malcontents, but to the satisfaction of the majority, to the satisfaction of business men and to the satisfaction of the poor suffering wives and children who had

suffered for weeks. But the malcontent got in his sneaky work. Not face to face with the Bishop, oh, no! malcontents do not do business that way, but in some remote corner far away from the Bishop he would tell the few men who gathered around him how strikes should be conducted and that the Bishop had sold out to the contractors. Ye gods, think of this! A man of the Bishop's calibre selling a strike; or, in fact, of any man selling a strike. How could it be done? The matter is never settled until a vote is taken by the men interested. Why, intelligent men in the labor movement have long since seen the impossibility of this and paid no attention to the malcontents or calamity howlers. Strikes are serious things at best and many could be avoided in the rank and file if more confidence was placed in the men selected to settle the trouble. We do not mean to give the committee full power to act, but give them time to report back to the organization before you criticise them. Men who serve on committees have to consider the number of people who are likely to suffer. Then act accordingly and do not make any radical moves, but act in a conservative, gentlemanly manner, and more can be accomplished than by being too aggressive. There are many men in the labor movement too ready to condemn; this does no good. Calling a man a thief don't make him one by any means; you have got to prove him a thief before the law or intelligent men will not take any notice of it. Just watch the fellow who leans upon the bar with a glass of beer in his hand; pay particular attention to him; he will give you pointers how to run the labor movement in this country; the system is all wrong; all the labor leaders are out for what they can get; watch that fellow; trace out his past; see how honest he has been himself before you pay any attention to him, for its dollars to doughnuts that he owes the Local of his craft money. Perhaps he ran for some office and failed to get votes enough, and this makes him a malcontent; and not satisfied with becoming dissatisfied himself, he starts out on the mission of making converts to his cause. The man who cannot stand defeat, is a poor man indeed. A workingman's life is one of constant defeats from the cradle to the grave; we must bear these defeats; why not take defeats in an organization with the same good grace. Buckle on the armor, enter the fight and help the man who defeated you and show that you are made of the proper stuff for a Union man, and your fellow craftsmen will think more of you for it; above all things don't become a malcontent. There is nothing gained by knocking all the time, quit it and get out and hustle some and when you do the other knockers will get a chance at you. Say, malcontents, don't think the so-called

labor leaders of your country are getting rich; look the list over and see how many millionaires you will find. Men who become leaders in the labor movement do not get any great amount of money, you can bank on that. We don't go much on the word "leader," for every man who lives up to the doctrines of right and justice and believes in the good old motto of equal rights to all mankind is a leader. The movement is gaining ground in spite of the malcontents, and let us hope in the near future there will be no malcontents in the locals. If things don't suit, make them; it is not a very hard matter to get men with you when in the right; it may take some time but they will come after awhile. In conclusion let us say, get down to business and stop knocking.

LOOKING over a certain Electrical Magazine, we ran across the following, written by a Philadelphia shoe clerk:

#### INCREASED HIS SALARY \$5.00 PER WEEK.

Before taking the Wiring and Bell-Work Course of The International Correspondence Schools, I was a shoe salesman, at a salary of \$8.00 per week. I still hold the same position, but receive \$9.00 per week. I have one afternoon and three evenings off duty each week. This spare time I turn to advantage by doing electrical work. In this way I increase my salary \$5.00 per week, making \$14.00 in all. I now feel qualified to accept a position in an electrical establishment, and when the opportunity occurs, I intend to change my occupation.

And in spite of such things staring electrical workers in the face some men will ask, what good is a labor organization, and wonder why their wages are so low. Now, young men who are shoe clerks some of the time and wiremen when not clerks not only hurt the workingmen, but the contractor as well. Philadelphia, one of our largest cities, has no local.

#### MATTER OF PATENTS.

The editor of the Worker has received the letter which follows from a brother in Boston:

Boston, Mass., May 2, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

My Dear Sir: I have invented an electrical appliance which I know, by trial, is of intrinsic value, and which can be made very useful in connection with certain electrical machines. I cannot afford to get it patented, and I certainly haven't the capital to manufacture it and place it on the market.

What is the best course for me to take?

Yours very truly,

L. H. W.

That is an easy one.

If the writer of this letter has stated the case fairly—of which we have no doubt—and values his peace of mind, he has but one alternative, that is, to break the appliance into as many pieces as he can conveniently and distribute these pieces in half a dozen different scrap heaps and burn his diagrams.

It goes without saying that the answer which, in all candor, we are compelled to make is not an agreeable one; that it is not the answer which the brother had hoped to receive, and not the answer which he would have received from nine hundred and ninety-nine out of one thousand people to whom the inquiry might have been addressed. Now, the natural and proper inquiry will be: "What is the reason for this advice?" There are many reasons, and we will give just a few of them.

First.—The laws which govern the issue of patents in this country, and to which an inventor must look for conservation of his rights, are not framed and administered for the protection of inventors. This is a broad statement, but it is borne out by the history of the electrical art.

That's one reason; here is another:

If you place your invention in the hands of a company promoter he will get the entire outfit by any of half a dozen methods. In the end the inventor will be "done up" if the invention has any value, and he will save lots of worry and ruined air-castles if he takes the scrap heap route at the outset for, as the letter writer virtually puts it, he has no money with which to fight for his rights.

That's a second reason; here is another:

If, as we are all the time assuming, the brother's invention is of real value, and if he is shrewd enough to escape the wiles of the ordinary promoter, he may still find himself "up against" the "Chicago game." Don't know the game in Boston? No? Well, it is known in the latitudes of New York state, and a good many inventors who have been caught by it will give a good sample of vigorous profanity when the trick is mentioned. This particular method of circumventing inventors is called the "Chicago game" because it was first practised in that enterprising city. Here is the lay-out, and it will not be our fault if our Boston brother does not recognize it when he "meets up" with it:

An inventor has a machine or device of palpable merit, and which is clearly patentable, but he has neither the money to patent nor exploit it. A man comes to him and makes a proposition which, on its face, is perfectly square. He proposes, in consideration of one-half of all the patents, to procure such patents, manufacture, advertise and sell the appliances and divide the profits; one-half to go to himself and one-half to go to the inventor. A simple contract is drawn to this effect and the business progresses. Money is spent very freely. The device is well manufactured, well advertised, and, up to a certain point well sold. Then the manipulator of the Chicago game finds, as he says, that it is necessary to get a lot of capital and "spread out." His proposition is something like this:

He will propose a stock company of say 100 shares of the par value of \$100 each, the patent or patents to go in as the capital. Thirty shares are to be placed as treasury stock, the promoter taking thirty-five and the inventor thirty-five. From the proceeds of the sale of the treasury stock the promoter is to be reimbursed for the money he has advanced and for salary as manager, traveling expenses and any charge which he can ring in, and he holds—with his friends who have the treasury stock—the controlling interest. Now note the plain arithmetic. The promoter has recouped himself for every dollar he has spent and every dollar he could manage to charge against the outfit. Then, the inventor being the only real contribution of capital, the promoter coolly offers the inventor a third and absolutely valueless interest. In other words, the combination to which the promoter belongs get their money back and a controlling interest without having really invested a dollar.

At this point the inventor, remembering that a large number of the appliances have been sold at a profit, is very apt to "kick" and refuse to join any such open-and-shut stock deal, and demands that the terms of the contract be carried out; and the contract says nothing about a stock company.

It is just here that the little joker in the Chicago game gets in its work. The unfortunate inventor produces his contract and is coolly informed that the contract does not specify when the profits are to be divided, and such proves to be the case. By this time the most honest and confiding inventor will tremble. But he has his contract. The first lawyer to whom he presents his case will tell him that it is useless to begin a law suit without a good roll of money to carry it through. If the inventor is on his metal and is determined to obtain his rights, a little investigation discloses the fact that the man who signed the contract is only a "dummy;" that he has no financial responsibility, and that it is useless to attempt to recover. The real parties who have put up the money have advanced it to him and have already been repaid from the sales. If they are not entirely repaid the promoter will simply tell the inventor that he (the promoter) can get his money out of it, and he calmly proceeds with the business. Of course, the object, as in most other patent promotion games, is to reach a compromise on a stock company which will give the promoters control without investment. In most cases the inventor gives up the fight; and a little later the company is legally "reorganized," and he finds himself out in the cold.

That's our reason for advising the Boston brother, if he cannot raise money enough to exploit his own invention, to send it to the scrap heap.

## OUR LOCALS.

### Local Union No. 1.

St. Louis, Mo., June 7, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

"All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," and as the members of No. 1 have been working steadily for nearly a year since the termination of our strike last summer, they have decided to give a railroad excursion to Havana, Ill., on June 11. The distance is 130 miles. The train will pass through Springfield, giving those who desire an opportunity to see the sights of the State capital and return with the excursion in the evening. An interesting program has been arranged and a good time is guaranteed to all. The game of ball between Nos. 1 and 3 will be a battle royal and some of the players will undoubtedly receive offers from league magnates after it is over.

No. 1 has been holding some rattling meetings of late. At the last meeting we noticed the smiling faces of three who had not attended a meeting for nearly a year. We will soon have with us several who broke ranks in April, 1898. Forty-five dollars is the amount they are paying and as soon as that amount is paid we will extend to them the glad hand once more.

No. 1 added a number of members by card recently. Our brothers in other cities should bear in mind that it costs \$20 to get their first Building Trades Council card in No. 1. The running expenses of the union are about \$200 per month. It has cost every one of the old members of No. 1 from \$150 to \$200 to secure present conditions in St. Louis and members coming from other cities should not complain that we are hard on them. In a city where wages are from \$1 to \$1.50 more, and the working day two hours less than in surrounding cities it is absolutely necessary to have some restriction—a protective tariff if you wish to call it such.

On and after July 1st the initiation fee in No. 1 will be \$35. This, and a number of other amendments to our by-laws, was adopted about a month ago.

The union labor ordinance mentioned in my March letter was passed after being amended in the Council. It was thought at first, and was probably so intended, that the amendment made the bill worthless as far as the main object sought to be obtained was concerned; but the fact that a determined effort is being made to have the law repealed would indicate that the Missouri-Edison and other unfair concerns are afraid of it. As the law now stands it compels the insertion of a union-labor clause in all contracts let by the city except street and public improvements when

a special tax is levied against abutting property.

ELECTRON,  
Press Sec'y.

### Local Union No. 2.

Kansas City, Mo., May 31, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

Dr. to the N. B. E. W. of A., through the columns of the Worker, to the above named order, a letter from Local No. 2 of Kansas City, Mo., also an apology which I hope the members will kindly accept, as you are all well aware No. 2 has only been organized a short time. We are doing as well as could be expected, having at the present time thirty-three members and hope to get more shortly, as we have promises, although promises do not buy anything. We were somewhat afraid at first that by organizing the linemen's local here, thereby taking some of the oldest timber from No. 18, we would to a certain extent cripple that local, but I am proud to state that No. 18's gain since has been double their loss, and no one feels prouder than Adam's, "Old Boy," and I hope the electrical workers outside of the local will appreciate what we have been doing for them and take a tumble to themselves and roll up or gently walk up some Wednesday evening to 1117 Walnut st., Labor Hall. We will give them the hand of fellowship, and say come lets be brothers again, or lets be brothers, as the case may be.

Bro. Drollinger is out on the road with a little gang of his own stringing wire for the Postal between Kansas City and Denver, Colo. The Postal is O. K., so when you have a message to send out of K. C. do not forget the Postal hires' Union men.

Bro. C. N. Miles has been very low with pneumonia; was not expected to recover, but would say he is much better and on the road to complete recovery. I hope the brothers will get their journals O. K. If you move don't forget to tell the Worker, for if you do not inform it, it will not follow you.

As some of the brothers of No. 2 took out cards and transportation to Salt Lake, we would be pleased to hear from them through the Worker. We wish them success.

We understand Bro. McCarthy has gone to St. Louis. Success Jack, and let us hear from you. We also have several ex-members of No. 18 in St. Louis. We hope they have not fallen by the wayside. Come, brothers, let us wake up and solicit trade for the N. B. E. W. of A. and make it a trust that we have faith in and not afraid to trust. Let us make the N. B. E. W. of A. one of the leading grand lodges of the country. Let the world know you are Union but in so doing prove to your employer you are a better, truer and more trustworthy employee for being union. You may have some bad faults, as we all

have, no doubt, but we can all overcome them by being true to our union. When you are true to your union, you are true to one and all alike, and it does not take the employer only a short time to find this out, and he is therefore more willing and anxious for your welfare.

I want to say, success to Uncle Tom and I hope I may be able to see his excellence at our next convention in the Smokey, where your 33rd nephew, C. H. A., was bred and born, in the valley just above the Smokey amongst the pumpkins and the corn.

Wishing success to the members of the N. B. E. W. of A. and wishing more to follow throughout the world.

Fraternally,

C. H. A.,  
Press Sec. No. 2.

P. S.—I just come from over the river, being up to Pumpville, Kansas, to test one of Nicko-Teso's Humo air meters. Seeing a notice in last month's Worker in regard to them and the statement of them not sending out any free samples, it only being a short distance from K. C., as you know we are on the border here, I just walk over, being accompanied by a cousin of Nicko of short birth. Well, we arrived all O. K., except dusty, hot and out of breath, as we passed through the hot wind part of Kansas. Well, we got hitched up to the meters and will just say they work immensely. Nick wanted me to take one to K. C. with me but I told him I thought I had better not as I did not think they would be a success in Mo., as the air in Mo. is damp and heavy and sometimes muddy and was quite sure it would ground the meter. He agreed with me and stated he would get up an amendment to the meter thereby evaporating the air before using it in the meter. Now, I understand, or have been informed, that Bro. Roth of Atchison, Kans., uses one of Nicko's meters constantly and when he came down to K. C. last Sunday he wore the meter also; being of course used to it, but I have been informed the air was too damp in K. C. for it and consequently Bro. Roth got the meter grounded before he left K. C. and was not able to get to see all of the boys. Will say they work O. K. in Kansas, but they are N. G. in Mo. Would ask Brother Roth if this is not true. Well, to make this story short I succeeded in getting Nicko to join the order. Received his cash, gave him the goat hop and the Elect. Fling and will say Nicko is now a full-fledged member of the N. B. E. W. of A., and you will undoubtedly hear from him hereafter. Would close by saying I had a question asked me some few days ago which you may think is foolish, but I have since given it considerable thought and will put the question to you for answer as it was given to me: If an irresistible force should come in contact with an im-

movable object, what would be the result?

Fraternally,

C. H. A.,

Press Sec. No. 2, K. C., Mo.

### Local Union No. 3.

St. Louis, June 6, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As we have no press secretary, I will write a few lines in regard to giving the members of Local No. 3 a jacking-up for not attending our meetings. There are several of the brothers who make engagements to kill men, and meet their girls, and order suits of clothes. Now, all of this has to be on Thursday. I would like to inform the brothers that there are six other nights in the week on which to make those engagements. Then there are several brothers who have a habit of sending their dues up by some one else. This should be stopped. Brothers, don't be afraid to show your faces; come up, so we can have a large crowd, and it will put us in mind of old times. A good many of the brothers stay away from meetings because they are afraid if they come up they will be elected to some office. I would like to ask these brothers how the deuce they expect to run a union without officers. Get your heads together; be men; don't be boys, and see if we can't make our local as big as the rest of them. And another thing I would like the boys to do is to try and induce all of the ex-brothers who have fallen by the wayside to come back. If you don't succeed at once, try again; keep at them until you get them. I hope none of the brothers will feel offended at these remarks, and that this article in the Worker may be the means of a larger attendance at our meetings.

J. T. O'BRIEN,  
Press Secretary.

### Local Union No. 5.

Pittsburg, June 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Well, our gang of trouble experts have returned and report the lines are clear, in fact, a fulfillment of our prophesy in last month's Worker. All ground, short and open circuits have received due consideration by the local's committee, and also the Pittsburg Electrical Contractors Protective Association; and considering that a child had to be born for a special purpose and that it has attained an age to be sufficiently strong enough to walk, it has struck out to accomplish said purpose with its fellow co-laborers of Local Union No. 5, and with a mutual understanding with each other all in the space of four weeks is, we think, a rather slick article when it goes for speed. All men should be reasonable and possess a fair degree of common sense, of course, each one has his opinion; but as Lord Bacon said: "Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man and writing an exact man," we think that reasonable de-

mands laid before reasonable men, would receive reasonable consideration, which, we are glad to say, has been the gratifying result. There is not the slightest doubt that if the same methods which have characterized the former action is carried throughout the term of this agreement that both contractors and wiremen will be the gainers in all they undertake, which was at this time a precarious condition for the contractors. Owing to the low basis work had fallen to, it was their only salvation. The agreement was not a compulsory measure but was made to appear so by outsiders and the press; there was no trouble nor was there an intention of a strike. It was simply a business proposition offered by Local Union No. 5 at a time when it meant so much to the employer; to refuse would mean all kinds of trouble and a smash-up, to accept the proffered help was to join in the mutual operations pertaining to the trade we look to for our support.

It is with a feeling of exultation that I pen these lines to the Brotherhood, born not of a single idea but many, that go to make our natures as they should be, when labor is given her dues. The first reason that gives rise to our present buoyant spirit is for the organization and keeping Local Union No. 5 in a thoroughly good financial working basis, that is, I mean those who have stood by her when hope seemed like a fading star on the horizon of our existence, fading slowly into complete oblivion; not the ones who tremble as slaves and are not worthy of the name of men, being devoid of honesty and principle and have not the full degree of what their craniums ought to hold, who will run as a skulking dog or a traitorous coward when trouble comes, and are afraid to stand their ground as they should as brothers. It is for these I do not care one flip—human vultures feeding on the mistakes of others. But all organizations are sorely afflicted with these parasites and it is not worth the time and paper to give them notoriety—those who know more of Local No. 5's business than its bonafied members. If they said strike, they are prevaricators of the first water, as these lubbers are always on the lookout to do damage to someone, even if it is friend against friend, and brother against brother. But "the mill of the Gods grind slow and exceedingly small," and these insignificant particles fall out between the burrs in a short time. Words cannot express the contempt I feel for such individuals, and as for Local No. 5 she never was in a better financial condition than now and is going forward.

The second reason is that the electrical contractors have arrived at the point which Local Union No. 5 has been pushing ever since she was an organization, the very ideas are taken up and the same work will have to be gone through, but on a far dif-

ferent basis of operation. We will now show the helping hand, which, when professed before, passed unnoticed by contractors and inspectors; but now there will be a unified effort for the general betterment of the electrical industry, a basis of mutual operation which will alone accomplish the results intended by the two bodies. As one of the early agitators of this, and in conjunction with the efforts of my colleagues we have to-day accomplished what others said you never can; and I believe it stands without a peer for clearness in the adjustment throughout, and it is with exceedingly great pride that I now have before me the actual document—an agreement between employer and employee that is a reasonable one and makes the two hearts beat as one for the success of both. An honest effort of labor to elevate by hard work of education to the point of rights and privileges and where the mistake has been made, which placed both contractor and wiremen on an unsafe footing. Now, bridged by an agreement for and by the united efforts we will succeed; this is where labor gains, in having a sure, fair understanding and making reasonable and rational demands.

Did you ever think as the hearse drives by,  
That it won't be long 'till you and I,  
Go riding out in that big plumed hack,  
And we never remember of coming back.

Did you ever think, as you strive for gold,  
That a dead man's hand can't a dollar hold,  
You can pinch and tug, strive and save,  
But you'll lose it all when you reach the grave.

That man may last, but never lives,  
Who much receives, but nothing gives,  
Whom none can love, whom none can thank,  
Creations blot, creations blank.

But he who marks from day to day,  
In generous acts his radiant way,  
Treads the same path his Saviour trod,  
The path to glory and to God.

THOMAS DALY.

The third reason is that the hand has been extended to labor in this vicinity to gain in a financial way. A grand testimonial benefit will be given the week of the 26th of July, and the proceeds over and above the actual running expenses are to be divided share and share alike among the various labor organizations in this vicinity who take part. It is a novel scheme in its make-up and has on the face of it the guarantee of success, because of the basis of mutual operation for a given end. The show will be well advertised and is to be made up of the cream of the American stage vaudeville performers, and one that will be within the reach of all, fifty cents being the price of admission.

The whole scheme was evolved outside by the friends of labor which shows that

there has been a line of conservative action, or else it would not have been recognized in this manner. Good luck to our outside friends.

Well, there has been all kinds of hustling here in Pittsburg according to some of the reports of the doctors, several night calls have been answered and there has come into the union many new members who will serve as apprentices for a period of time. Brother Fox was greatly surprised the other night by the appearance of a Foxy; well, to tell it as it was understood, they did not know for quite a while what; consternation reigned until they discovered a small pair of spurs, then of course they knew it was a wire puller. Brother Wilsden had a similar experience but a different result (open face) diverter and coil winder. We know that brother Ford has his troubles—a pair; stem wind, switch board expert, and an open face carbon treater. I am sure that the brothers are pleased judging from the number of applications called for, but as the reports are not complete and other quarters to be heard from later, we will wait for results. What next?

Brother Proudey got himself together and went and found someone better, as that is the general acceptance of the action. O how nice a good cigar would be; haven't had one for a long time.

Brother Charles Campbell has made a terrible discovery, a motor that has nervous prostration. If any of the brothers ever heard of that ar disease afore, please send the medicine to Brother Campbell; it ought to be fixed.

Brothers Welsh and Kesler left the Smoky city for a clime that suits their health better; we would liked to have had them stay with us but they vanished. Call again brothers.

Now, since the agreement is signed, and will take effect July 1st, 1899, all wiremen, journeymen and fixturemen in this vicinity will have to come under the shadow of No. 5 if we know anything about what's gwine to drop. Where are those chumps who said the union be d——? Ah, hah, old man, how about it now? Innocents and sizzlers get in out of the wet, because it's going to rain pretty hard and you've got no umbrella.

But some will say that's a little strong. "There was a time when there was a chance, and you didn't advance." We are not in for fun, we mean business and that's why we are here yet and still in business at the old stand. Come down and we'll put the gloves on with ye. Look here, pard, take yer medicine like a man; knuckle down hard, none of your flinching; if you don't like this dose, friend or foe, it's good for you, I can tell you that you need a double portion, and if I had the words to give I'm sure you'd get it straight. Drink her down and look pleasant; smile a little and

own up the corn as you ought to; you have a whole lot to read between these lines; do your duty as a man, life is too short to act as an ass; read this agreement and think the matter over and see where you stand, then get a move on with your plunks.

Brother Eldridge has returned from a trip for his health and is looking as plump as a possum, and has lots to tell you; we are glad to have him among us again.

P. S.—I think I've written a long letter don't you? and it's about time I'd stop, because I don't want you to think for one minute that I'm running a race with dear Uncle Tom with his P. S.'s. that would never do. We all enjoy his letters and never'd get tired reading them if they took up the whole paper.

Here is our agreement:

#### MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT.

This agreement, made and entered into this first day of July, 1899, between the Association of Electrical Contractors of Pittsburg, hereinafter called the party of the first part, and Local Union No. 5 of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America, hereinafter called the party of the second part.

Witnesseth: That the parties hereby agree and with each other as follows:

First—Nine hours (9) shall constitute a day's work, from 7:30 a. m. to 12 noon, and from 12:30 to 5 p. m., except on Saturdays, on which 8 hours shall constitute a day's work, from 7:30 a. m. to 12 noon, and from 12:30 to 4 p. m.

Second—All car fare from office to work shall be paid by the party of the first part, unless the party of the second part is notified to report on job; if work is out of town, the party of the first part will pay all fares exceeding 10 cents.

Third—All over nine hours per day, and Sundays and legal holidays, time and a half shall be paid. Nothing less than one-half hour in any one week shall be constituted as overtime.

Fourth—The minimum rate of wages for journeymen, wiremen and fixturemen, shall be \$2.50 per day. Journeyman, wiremen or fixturemen, when recognized as foremen of a job, shall receive not less than \$2.75 per day, provided he has charge of three or more men.

Fifth—The party of the first part shall furnish all tools for conduit work, and also drills and bits over 18 inches in length, when such are required on a job; journeymen to be responsible for tools taken from shop.

Sixth—No journeymen, wiremen or fixturemen shall do any work that properly belongs to the party of the first part; and not more than one member of a contracting firm shall do journeymen work, unless in case of extreme necessity.

Seventh—No contractor shall employ at any time more than one apprentice or

helper to one journeyman, wireman, or fixtureman.

Eighth—A boy to learn the trade shall serve one year as helper, and at the expiration of that time, if of good character and ability, shall be admitted to the Union as an apprentice, provided he has attained the age of 17 years.

Ninth—An apprentice shall not be allowed to finish any work in any branch of the business under two years' service.

Tenth—The party of the first part agrees that all men employed by them, or shall be employed by them after date aforesaid, shall be union men in good standing; and the party of the second part agrees not to work for any firm not signing this agreement, except manufacturing firms operating their own plant.

Eleventh—This agreement shall apply to all work within the radius of 15 miles from Allegheny County Court house.

Twelfth—The party of the first part reserves the right to discharge any man in their employ, at any time for reasonable cause.

Thirteenth—Neither party hereto shall do any act discriminating in any way against any member of the union or association.

Fourteenth—In case of breach of agreement by either party, the other party shall furnish to the party so offending, a communication in writing, and each party shall appoint a committee of three, said committee to meet as soon thereafter as possible, and dispose of the question at issue.

Fifteenth—In case of breach of agreement by any contractor or member of the union, and if the accused shall be found guilty, a fine of \$5.00 shall be imposed for the first offense, and for the second offense they shall be expelled from the union or association.

Sixteenth—When an applicant presents himself for admission into the union a committee of three shall be appointed, two of whom shall be members of the union, and one a member of the association, and said committee shall constitute an examining board to pass upon application, and a two-third vote of said board shall entitle applicant to membership into the electrical workers' union, provided he is favorably considered by said union in meeting assembled, said union to pay all expenses of examining board, provided said expense does not exceed \$2.00.

Seventeenth—This agreement, when accepted, and signed by the committees and an executive officer of the union and association, is an agreement between the parties hereto; and it is agreed and distinctly understood that all previous communications between said parties, either verbal or written, contrary to the provisions hereof are hereby withdrawn and annulled, and this agreement shall continue in force for

one year from date, and this agreement shall be modified only by a duly approved supplementary agreement signed by both parties, provided one month's written notice shall be given by either party, containing full information in regard to contemplated changes.

Witness our hands and seals this 2nd day of June, 1899.

Electrical Contractors Association per H. W. Cleland, secretary.

J. B. McGINLEY,  
JAS. A. LANGTON,  
GEO. R. MATHIEN,  
Committee.

Per E. D. SMITH, president.

Local Union No. 5, National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers of America, per H. H. Haas, president.

F. D. MALONE,  
WM. A. EVANS,  
JOHN W. ECOFF,  
Committee.

Per JOHN S. HASKINS, chairman.  
[L. S.]

Yours Fraternally,  
J. H. STOUFFER.

#### Local Union No. 6.

San Francisco, Cal., June 1, 1899.  
Editor Electrical Worker:

The following extract from a local paper will no doubt be of interest to the brothers:

The fifth annual picnic of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers at Agricultural Park recently was largely attended and a most enjoyable affair. The crowd was an orderly one, and as the weather was delightful there was nothing to mar the pleasure of the occasion.

The excursionists from San Francisco came in two trains of fifteen cars that were well filled. They were accompanied by a number of policemen in full uniform, who did not have anything to do in their official capacity, but took part in and greatly enjoyed the amusement features of the day. Sheriff Langford was also on the ground with a posse, but they were not called upon to exercise their authority, as no serious disturbances materialized.

The dancing, which was kept up all day in the pavilion and on the open floor in the eucalyptus grove, was much enjoyed. There was a throng of dancers on the spacious floor of the pavilion throughout the day and the scene was an animated one.

The games in the afternoon proved lively and interesting contests and greatly entertained the crowd. J. J. Cameron, a husky electrical worker from San Francisco, who has often proved himself the champion on former similar occasions, won the honors on this occasion, with his brother, J. A. Cameron, second.

The bicycle race, once around over the race course, was won by contestant Allen, D. Manning second and George Dow third.

J. J. Cameron won two of the footraces, securing fine prizes.

The most interesting and exciting contests of the day were the pole-climbing events, that are peculiar to the electrical workers and of practical value to them, as demonstrating how quickly they can climb up and down poles with the use of their iron foot spurs. Three poles had been erected on the main road for the purpose, the taller of which was fifty-five feet high, with a crossbar four feet from the top. J. J. Cameron won the prize for the fastest time in climbing up and coming down the pole. He made it in 19 seconds, thereby winning the fine gold championship medal set with diamonds. The other contestants in this order were: J. A. Cameron, 20 1-5 seconds; E. Verdon, 21; D. Eckstrom, 22; J. Ellison, 23; Joe Williams, 26.

The three-pole climbing contest was won by J. A. Cameron in 35 seconds. The other contestants in their order were: D. Eckstrom, 36 2-5; E. Verdon, 37; J. Ellison, 37 2-5; Joe Williams, 50 2-5.

D. Eckstrom won the contest of placing a cross arm on the top of a pole, his time being 2:14, to 2:16 by Joe Williams.

The contest of throwing a wire over a line fifty feet high was won by contestant Dugan, Coffman second and Bentley third.

The orders for the various prizes were distributed on the grounds.

The officers of the Electrical Workers, all of whom were active in making the picnic and excursion a success, were: R. P. Gale, Grand Vice-President; J. J. Cameron, President; George Sittman, Vice-President; A. A. Whitfield, Recording Secretary; R. P. Gale, Financial Secretary; T. Conness, Press Secretary; George Keetley, Treasurer; Harry Hilton, Foreman; C. Baraco, Inspector; Charles Stark, T. Conness; Harry Hilton, Trustees.

The committees of the day were: Arrangement Committee, A. Whitfield, chairman; J. J. Cameron, R. P. Gale, C. Remschel, H. Hilton, George Barnhardt, B. Brown, H. F. Danipke, T. Conness, J. W. Glass, George K. Porter.

Reception Committee—C. Anderson, F. Thurlies, J. Williams, G. Gillispi, W. Connor, P. Lynch, F. Pillitt, F. Guthrie, R. Bryant, William McLellan.

Floor Directors—George Sittman, Edgar Ries.

Floor Committee—C. W. Baraco, W. H. Perkins, F. Keetley, C. Stark, A. Rose, H. Hasselback, L. Riche.

Games Committee—Walter Bentley, Lieutenant C. J. Hogan, J. W. Glass.

Judges—H. J. Edwards, William McFarland, J. R. Bailey.

Gate Keepers—H. Hilton, George Barnhardt.

#### Local Union No. 7.

Springfield, Mass., June 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Another month has come and gone and Local No. 7 has accomplished much in that short space of time. About four weeks

ago we elected a business agent to go forth and do missionary work among the unbelieving of our city. Bro. Bowen, who is a heart-and-soul worker for the union, was selected to fill the office, but Bro. Bowen was compelled, after two weeks, to resign, owing to the pressing duties of his other positions. Bro. O. L. Dresser was appointed to fill his place; and that Bro. Dresser is a hustler goes without saying; as during his short term in office we have added seven inside wiremen to our ranks. That's right, Bro. Dresser; keep it up. We need a few more like you. I think other locals could imitate us in this line to their advantage. A business agent will do your locals all kinds of good. Of course every brother is, or should be, a self-appointed agent. He should do his utmost to promote the good of the union. But in all organizations a few men do all the hustling, while the rest of us look on, instead of doing our share. This reminds us of a story. This story commences as all well-regulated stories should, thus: Once upon a time the people of the earth agreed that upon a certain day, at a given time, they would raise a shout which would ascend to the moon. At the appointed time every person was to shout at the top of his lungs. Now, as the time drew nigh, each one said to himself, "Everyone else is going to shout; guess I'll keep quiet and listen." And the result was that at the appointed time it was the quietest moment that the earth ever experienced. Now, this is what the trouble is with the greater number of us; we want to keep quiet and listen while the other fellows do the shouting.

Now, we all know the men of our craft are not paid in accordance to the work they perform. We should receive better pay than a common laborer, but in some cases, I am sorry to say, the wages are not much better. You receive pay for the manual labor performed by your hands, nothing for the knowledge of knowing how to do it. A plumber once sent a bill to a cranky customer who returned the bill and wanted to have it itemized. The plumber itemized the bill in this manner:

Fixing pump . . . . .	\$ .50
Knowing how . . . . .	2.00

Total . . . . . \$2.50

So you see a man should be, according to this friend of labor, paid for a little more than manual labor. That plumber can have a cigar on me the first time we meet.

Now, we are all about to install new officers, and let it be the aim of all locals to elect men who will be of the best service to our cause, and help them all you can to build up our union.

Hoping the next six months will be as prosperous as the first six months of this year, I remain,

Fraternally yours,  
"THE JUDGE."

P. S. It's all off with Farrell's base ball team. No more practicing. Bill Jones swallowed the ball. J.

#### Local Union No. 9.

Chicago, June 7, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As our P. S. failed to make his report to the Worker last month, we have erased his name from the pay-roll, and in his stead No. 9 has elected one of the stalwarts of the N. B., but as he has not been installed yet I was instructed to notify the N. B. that No. 9 is still alive and doing business in this village, and the latch-string hangs out to all brothers coming this way.

We will hold our annual picnic August 13. No superstition about No. 9. We change the pole contest from one high to three short poles; by this change we hope to decrease the chances of accident and increase number of contestants. I hope we will see some of our old members there. I don't think there are any idle members in No. 9. The city is building a large electric plant for street lighting at 64th street and Wentworth avenue. This is to furnish light south of 39th street. This plant will have a capacity of 2000 lamps of 2000 candle power. This work will give No. 9 a chance to make some good brothers or test contract with city.

Fraternally yours,

W. E. KNAPP.

#### Local Union No. 10.

Indianapolis, Ind., June 6, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I have but a few words to write this time, and will try to write them quick and ring off. No. 10 is doing good business, and the brothers will believe the statement when they hear that we had seven new lights and two old ones to add to our circuit the other night, and two more old ones last night. Our \$10, that we charged to ride our goat, don't scare any one. They put up the stuff right on the jump, and don't you think for a minute that we are easy on backsliders, either; for if they are far enough in arrears they pay the same rate as new applicants; we are not a bit easy; and I, for one, have no patience with a man that is working all the time, or nearly so, and then will let his dues go. They are not very deep; you can reach the bottom of their unionism with a very short pole. Let some fellows get where they don't have to show a card and their due-money is soon blown in. Why can't the laboring men hang together? Why is the laboring man not protected? Why do not all classes of labor command the wages they are worth? Why are men—fathers—working to-day for the same wages that we boys used to get for riding a horse in the hay field or gathering sheaves in the wheat field 15 or 18 years ago? Think of it; men supporting families now on the wages that boys earned when there wasn't but the be-

ginning of as much money in circulation as there is to-day. God knows we, as men, earn more, but get it, if you can. We have got a gold standard now; we have prosperity; confidence is restored; the poor man has learned economy; his stomach is shrunken; he can't eat so much; his skin is acclimated and hardened; he don't need clothes; he has lost his American pride; he lives in woodsheds and barns remodeled, or else away out in the suburbs, where he can use some of his big wages to go to and from work. They don't care for their families; they can stay anywhere. Why is the poor man where he is to-day? I'll tell you. It is because he has permitted himself to be pushed and shoved wherever the bosses willed. Why don't we, to a man, pause and study the condition of ourselves and our fellow-men? This will be enough. Many will ask, What can we do? I say, organize, and then stick together; for you can see the results of organization everywhere. Look how the money power is organized and note the result of the last three years. They have everything their own way. Look at the monopolies that are forming every day, and note their success. Brothers, we must succeed if we get thoroughly organized; and when you go into any labor organization, remember the commandment, "Love thy neighbor as thyself," and expect to help your neighbors and fellow-workmen as much as yourself. I say, if you don't go into the union with this intention, stay out, and don't get in the road. Some say, "I have no kick coming, because I've got a job and pretty fair wages." But I have got a kick coming, and I expect to kick. My job and my wages don't create jobs and wages for my fellow-men who have no work and are hungry. Kick? You bet I'll kick! I guess I must have been born kicking; but I will quit it for this time and see how some people like it; then, maybe I'll kick harder.

No. 10 is doing all she can to push the good cause along. We pick up everybody that is qualified, if they only give us a hint that they want to see us. You ought to see Joe Langdon go after them. He is the real stuff; and we've got a lot more just about as good. All are well at present and about up to date. The boys all seem to like to carry good cards.

I owe and willingly make an apology to Bro. McCarthy. His girl happened to be a boy, and outweighed Bro. Pike's girl half a pound, and he, like his father, is a good union man and has already sent in his application to No. 10. Hoping that this correction is sufficient, and that we may have many letters this month, I am, as ever, for union and our rights.

E. E. BAUMAN, P. S.

#### Local Union No. 12.

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I wish to publish the fact that one who

used to be a member of Local No. 12 has violated his oath of allegiance to the National Brotherhood and joined that body of rebels known as No. 3. Not that we regret losing the man, for where one is like him there are too loyal ones; but it only shows you the low, dirty work that a man can stoop to. He had no reason to do this other than getting a job that would pay him more money. He was working for the N. Y. Tel. Co. Members of other locals will please bear in mind the name, Frank J. Luce, and when you run across him—well, you know the way to treat a traitor.

E. W. LATHAM, Sec'y pro tem.

#### Local Union No. 17.

Detroit, Mich., June 9, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

A greeting to the brotherhood from No. 17.

I am sorry to report a bad accident to Bro. M. Conin. He was on top of a pole taking down some wires and when he cut the last ones off the pole snapped and it and brother Conine came crashing to the earth, breaking the bones in both his feet. I am happy to state that he is doing nicely. The union esteems this brother very highly and congratulates him on his narrow escape from death.

Hurrah for No. 1 of St. Louis. Brothers Raymond and Woodworth have their cards there and from their glowing reports No. 1 must certainly be a noble body of men, to have been able to bring about such good conditions as they have in that metropolis of the southwest. Here's wishing you luck No. 1.

We are taking in some inside wiremen now. Business Agent Shea is getting the union clause into lots of the jobs this summer. Every firm has some union men, the Electrical Construction Co. have all union men, I understand. This company uses its men right, and what I say about some bosses in another part of this letter does not refer to them, or to other employers who are on the square. The Edison Co., for instance, with Joe Widman as superintendent of lines. A lineman who works for him once never wants to leave him. That kind of people never have any trouble you will notice. They are square.

Brother Robert Wright, we have not forgotten you, but you know No. 17 has had lots of trouble of its own lately, and you know what that does to the treasury, but we are going to dig up something next meeting night, nevertheless.

As the strike at the Bell Telephone Co. is over and the brothers back at work at a raise of wages, I will send you the following four names of union men who scabbed during the trouble: Wm. Burke, George Allen, Owen Gregg and John Laderoot. The first one is the worst, but are not the whole four a fine collection of hyena-hearted things? Yes, a precious quartette of curs? They have been expelled and

placed on the black-list. I have not the names of the non-union men who scabbed. There were several of them. Their names will be published next month. It speaks volumes for the influence of No. 17 that only four union men broke their solemn obligations and scabbed. We request the Recording Secretary of each local to cut the above four names out and paste them in their minute books for future reference, in case these grafters ever try to get into the Brotherhood again.

One of the brothers requests me to turn the hose on all scabs in general through the Worker. Instead of the hose I would like to shoot kill-me-quick roach powder over them through a funnel a foot in diameter.

One of the scabs of the recent strike threatened to raise Cain if we interfered with him. No. 17 has a distinct knowledge of its own business, and we propose to carry out a policy with whiskers on it, so what t' ell Bill? What t' ell?

Soon after the Bell trouble was over, the brothers at the Detroit Tel. Co. went out, and after putting up a fine fight have returned to work with substantial points won. They tied things up so tight that the company soon called for an arbitration board, which adjusted the trouble. Frank Snyder and the rest of the committee did fine work, backed up by every man on strike. As the question was one of hours more than wages, and as they gained the nine-hour day, you can call this one more victory for No. 17.

Up to the minute this last strike was ended not a man wavered. They were the right stuff from surface to center and back again. Why, bless their brave hearts, they knew that all struggles do not win the first time? Even if lost, they knew a strike is a benefit to the extent that it shows the employer that his pocket book suffers during the trouble and almost always for a long time afterwards too, and he is more apt to concede some things in the future to avoid this stoppage of profits. If unions had laid down in the past when defeated, conditions would not be as rosy today as they are. Are we not as game as those before us?

In my travels I have run across arrogant bosses, and they are almost invariably personal cowards and in time of trouble they will send some one else out to do the dirty work if there is any danger, while they themselves skulk within the walls of a house. Any old house will do as long as it don't leak lead.

I read a short time ago in one of the monopolistic man-hating newspapers that unions try to tyrannize over not only the rich, but the poor as well. That is a black and brutal lie. The union never casts a stone at the poor and unfortunate, but is ever ready to back the cause of the weak

against the strong and to fight the grinder of labor at every turn. Take, for instance, a lot of men working for one of these grinding, sneering bosses. Where these men stand debating whether to bear their present ills, or fly to others they know not of, if there is a union man among them, he it is who urges them to make a stand for decent treatment; he it is who seizes the gauge of battle and flings it full and fair in the face of the domineering boss. And yet there are those who dare say that the union tyrannizes over the poor. Again, I say, that is a black and brutal lie.

The masses of the people are poor, ignorant and disorganized, not knowing the rights of mankind on the earth, because a small class in every country has taken possession of property and government, and makes laws for its own safety and the security of its plunder. Organized labor is the pioneer in the crusade against these classes who act as if they had a "divine right" to plunder the poor. Unionism is teaching the great common people to shun and to hate these aristocratic thieves. The union is an emancipator of human liberty and human thought. A tree is known by its fruits. If these classes had not the great forces of organized labor and its sympathizers to reckon with, they would be the death of the American standard of living, and in their accursed greed would hold the world in pawn. Who dares say this is not true? There is no exaggeration about this, I am talking straight facts to you now, Americans.

If this letter comes under the eyes of any non-unionists I want to urge them to come in aid be men, and do their part. Don't be afraid; be like a union man, afraid of nothing. No sir; a genuine union man don't know what fear is. He thinks it is some kind of a disease like yellow fever and only knows that he has never had it. Come in and rub up against some good union men and they will surely instill some independence into you. I see loyal union men all around me, and to know them is to love them. I know their faults and their virtues, and I admire them in spite of one and for the other. See how nobly they do fight for the cause, and I may say they will yet achieve that betterment of the workingman for which they have toiled so earnestly, battled so bravely and hoped so ardently, and in our hearts their lives ever a faith that the time will yet come in this fair land of ours when there will be neither a millionaire nor a beggar, a master nor a slave.

The election of officers will take place before another letter is written, and you will hear from a new Press Sec. I have written the letters for No. 17 for a long time, and have striven to give my conception of the wrongs done to workingmen, the evils that spring from these wrongs,

and the remedies to be applied. Brothers, apply them.

I hope the new Press Sec. will keep after those scabs who broke their obligation during the Bell Co.'s strike. I would like to publish a book about the low-flying, selfish, sneaking, grasping, cowardly hounds. I would make it so hot that the volume would have to be printed on asbestos paper and bound in fire brick.

Yours fraternally,  
DAN E. ELLSWORTH,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 18.

Kansas City, June, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In vain do I look for No. 2, when, oh when, wilt thou appear? Somebody get a search light. I see that F. D. of No. 4 says he is going to let us know about some of the backsliders of No. 4. Well, come along, let's have their names. Now, F. D., why don't you sign your full name to your letter? I think that each and every Press Secretary should sign his full name to his letter. Now, come along, let's have your name, I might meet you some day and I would like to take you by the hand and say, "Brother F. D., how are you, etc."

Judge, I read your letter, and I am going to take it before our City Council. Why? Look out for my July letter and see; at present I cannot tell you. Brother Miller says "save your money." Now, boys, stop right here and think awhile on what Brother Miller says. I have known and know now men who are at work here in Kansas City, who make from fifty to seventy-five dollars a month who, before the month is half gone, borrow till pay day. Now, boys, just stop and think of what you are doing. You are spending your hard earned wages for that which is not bread. Now, boys, stop it; if you have got families on your hands, think of what will become of them, if you keep it up. Now, we all know that a man who has got to work for a living does not know when he will lose his job, and then what? "Oh," you say, "I will look out for that." It's sixteen to one you won't do anything of the kind. Now, boys, for the dear ones at home, stop and think.

Well, Brothers Pike and McCarthy, I can sympathize with you; I have got a girl too, just twenty months. So you see I know how it is.

Give it to them, Brother Dean, go in old boy, and may you never be weary in well-doing. I have got one here who is trying to come the same game on me, but you can bet as long as I can handle a pen he will never do it.

Well! well! if here isn't No. 25 of old Kentuck. I am right glad to make your acquaintance, Brother Diebel. Come again, always room for one more. (Ain't it so,

Uncle Tom?) So keep it up now that you have started, do not get short circuited and shut down, but keep up with a full load each month. Keep a log book, my boy, and you will always have some copy for ye editor. I know he wants some from each and every local, eh Uncle?

Brother Sullivan, in his letter of last month, wants to know how much longer we are going to wait before we define what an electrical worker must be before he can sign up as an electrician. Now, Brother Sullivan, just keep your eye open for my July letter and you will see what he must be here in Kansas City before he will be allowed to do any kind of electrical work.

Why, Uncle Tom, I am surprised, a man of your age going to ball games and rooting like a Comanche or Siwash Indian. My! it's no wonder your little nephew is shocked. Why, it is just like getting aground on a five hundred volt circuit to hear that about a man of your venerable age. Now, I never go to a ball game (when I can't get a chance), so for my dear Auntie's sake, try and be good. (Take her.)

Speaking about ball games, that reminds me of whom I met at a ball game a few Sundays ago. It was Brother Eugene Roth, of Atchison, Kansas. It was the first time I ever had the honor of meeting Brother Roth, and I will say right here, it was grand to take him by the hand; for, if ever there was a man who had the welfare of the Brotherhood at heart, Brother Roth is that man. So come again, Brother Roth, we would like to see you at No. 18. A lot of the boys felt hurt because you did not call; so, if you will come, why we will do the rest. I see by Brother Weiser's letter that the trimmers of St. Joseph, Mo., have got a raise to \$60.00 a month. Now, why cannot a private plant pay as much. I will tell you why, St. Joseph owns her own plant, and we all know that wherever a city owns a plant, or anything else for that matter, it pays better wages than a private corporation does. So, why in thunder don't you go to the polls and vote as you ought to do. Vote for men who will not give these valuable franchises away. Now, here in Kansas City trimmers only get \$50.00 a month. Don't they work just as hard as the boys do in St. Joe? Well, I guess. So vote for municipal ownership of public franchises. Wages will go up, and stay up at that. There will be no strikes then. So wake up and think awhile before you vote for Mark Hanna or his tribe again. Let's hear from Uncle Tom on this. I would advise Brother Martin of Chicago to have his route changed to the river, then, if he falls from one of those poles he spoke of in his last letter, he will goin the river and only get a little bath and we all know that a bath is good for the health (especially a mud bath).

That is right, Brother McBroom, give the names of those black sheep you speak of; they might drop around here and we would like to meet them (with a pike pole and can't hook.) We would give them a very warm reception you can bet.

I see in last month's Worker quite an article on fires, caused by defective wiring. Now it is a fact that fully twenty-five per cent. of the fires nowadays are caused by poor wiring. Here in Kansas City not long ago we lost one of the finest theaters west of the Mississippi River by that kind of work. I refer to the Auditorium. It took fire at 1:05 a. m. and by 5 o'clock a. m. it was ruins; loss \$175,000.00. Now this subject should be brought up and discussed in our meetings. I also noticed in that article that some of the boys did not like to have the inspector come nosing around. Why not? Are they fifteen cent men, and cannot their work stand an honest inspection; it looks like that to me. A man who does not want his work to be inspected is not much of a workman; I don't care a rap who it is, either. Now, we have got two inspectors here in Kansas City, a city man and an underwriter man, and all either one of them asks is for the work to be done right. When it is, it passes, and not until it is right does it pass.

Now, I will try and give you a little news from No. 18. We have a little scheme on foot that we are trying to get through. (Where you ask). Wait until next month and I will tell you all about it. If we get what we want it will do away with a lot of bum workmen here in this old town. We will make it so hot for them that they will shake the dust off their feet never to come back again. It will not only benefit us here in Kansas City, but I think the whole United States, because if it is a success here I believe every city in the U. S. will adopt it. It is endorsed by the fire underwriters and the chief of the fire department of Kansas City. Also the general manager of the Electric Light Company. So you can see it must be a dandy. So watch out for the July number of the Worker, then you will see what it is. If it doesn't make some of these fifteen cent men quit, that I am always a harping on, I will miss my guess.

Well, Uncle Tom, No. 18 has donated five dollars to Brother Wright. I only wish that it was more, but it was the best that we could do, as our finances are very low at the present time. If every local would do that much, Brother Wright would have more than enough to start him in business.

No. 18 was more than pleased with the quarterly reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer. My only wish is that the delegates to the next Convention will keep them in office, for they certainly deserve it. For, if ever two men did their

duty, these two are the ones. So, come along boys, and push a good thing along; you know what I mean. Now I don't want you to think that I have forgotten the E. B., for I have not.

Brother Hutchinson was not at the meeting on the 26th ult. Why? Oh! only a ten pound boy, that is all. He sent a box of good cigars to the boys of No. 18 on the strength of it. No. 18 voted thanks for the cigars and wished the boy well. Old Hoss C. H. Adams, who was at the meeting, responded to the call for a toast. He said, "Here's success to the boy, and may he never be an electrical worker." I wish to say, at this writing mother and boy are doing well.

Here is some more fifteen cent work. Two young men, H. A. Davidson and Chas. McCallum, took a contract to install two telephones (private) for an alderman of Kansas City, Kansas. Well, they succeeded so well that a young lady and gentleman will be cripples for life and the work also called out the fire department, to put out the fire at each end of their line. Their lines came loose from the insulators and hung down across an arc circuit of 2500 volts and dropped within an inch or two of the sidewalk. The lady and gentleman I spoke of were walking along the sidewalk when they got tangled up in the wire, and, as I said before, are crippled for life. And, if it had not been for our worthy President, Brother Waterous and Brother Short, who happened to be close by and answered the young lady's cries, they would have soon been dead. The two brothers cut the wires and released them. Too much credit cannot be given those two Brothers, for their presence of mind and knowing what to do on the instant.

H. A. Davidson had the nerve to ask our President if No. 18 would stand by him and use our influence to get him out of his trouble. Well, I guess not. I guess it will teach those two boys a lesson. For my part, I think they ought to be punished very severely. Well, I will ring off, as it is time to cut in, so goodbye till July.

HARVEY BURNETT,  
Press Secretary, No. 18,  
Kansas City, Mo.

PLEASE READ FIRST, THEN JUDGE.  
To the Merchants of Kansas City, Mo.:

GENTLEMEN—It is with no pleasure and considerable regret that we address to you this circular letter. Only the systematic evasion of our request for arbitration looking to a friendly and peaceable solution of, to us, a most serious question, and the repeated failure of the employers to keep their positive and implied pledges and promises to meet us in friendly argument has forced upon us the only manly way left us to express our confidence in the full equity of our requests. Demands they have never been.

The history of electrical workers of nearly all classes, having in their hands the execution of work of responsibility, the safety of lives, and of property, has been one of a grossly underpaid class of wage-earners. Working at intervals, in a spasmodic and very uncertain way as to time, they have labored for wages much below those of almost any other trade connected with the building industries.

They have lately requested of the employers a meeting for friendly argument, consideration and concessions. For over three months the union, through its committees, has faithfully performed its duty looking to a peaceable settlement of the grievance. The first schedule, to some of the provisions of which the employers objected, was discarded, and a new one, embodying only such features as had not been objectionable in the first, was drawn up and presented. The result, systematic evasion of a meeting and broken pledges on the part of the employers, has been the same in every instance. Thus, meeting with cold, discourteous demeanor from the employers at every step of our exertions, every essay on our part to arrive at a peaceable solution; treated to broken pledges and unkept promises in our endeavors to realize to the full the tenet of our order which calls for the settlement of "all disputes between employers and employees by arbitration"; opposed thus, we are driven to that most distasteful of all alternatives, a strike.

The scale of wages preferred is most moderate, and much below that paid in any other line of the building trades. The other provisions of the schedule are in no wise inconsiderate of the rights of the employers. As a union we have ever been ready to meet on the broad ground of the undoubted equity of our position, to give concession for concession. We desire a friendly relation at all times with our employers and it is in a friendly spirit we have entered upon the present unfortunate contention.

Trusting no less in the sense of justice which animates all citizens, and merchants especially, of Kansas City than in the full and complete equity of our position, we request of you your moral and active support in our present difficulty, to the end that a peaceable solution may be speedily had to a much vexed and most regretable condition. The public press will keep you advised as to those firms who recognize the justice of the scale presented to them.

By order of  
GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE.

#### Local Union No. 25.

Louisville, Ky., June 7, 1899.

Editor Electric Worker:

I will have to say something or the boys will get mad, and so I will say it in a few words. No. 25 had a smoker last Thurs-

day night and we had a good time. We had representatives from every union in the city. I think there were about 300 present, and we had some good speaking, and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. We got six applications for membership; I think that is about all the electrical workers that were present who did not belong to the union, so you see we made them enjoy themselves. After the meeting they came to us and said they wanted to join the union. I am very glad I got a letter from the old Louisville boys from Pittsburgh, and I would like to hear from more. Things are getting a little better here now, but it is nothing to speak of yet.

JOHN C. DEIBEL.

#### Local Union No. 30.

Cincinnati, O., June 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In order to have it reach headquarters in time for publication I will have to cut this letter short. I will, say read the letters from Local No. 17 and from Local No. 38 of the May Worker; don't forget Local No. 37; for he's all right. Brothers read these letters and you have my way of believing and doing.

Work in and around Cincinnati is not very flourishing at present. There was to be quite a bit of work started by this time but for some reason they havn't got down to business as yet.

The Cincinnati Edison Electric Light Co. got rid of one man last month. He was trimming an arc lamp on the Eighth street viaduct which is situated on top of the Electric Street Railway poles which are of iron and grounded to the iron work of the viaduct. It seems that a few small boys found a place where the Cincinnati Electric Light Co. and Cincinnati Edison Co. wires come almost in contact with each other and being bare they would throw a piece of wire over the two and have a little fire works.

The membership of Local No. 30 is on the increase, some of the boys that have fallen back a little are coming to the front again. Success to the brothers. As my fuse is about to blow out I will have to relieve it by laying down my pen, so I will have a chance to dig up something for the issue of the journal for next month. Brothers that come this way drop in and see us on the first and third Monday of each month, or any old time.

Fraternally yours,  
WHISKERS NO MORE.

#### Local Union No. 37.

Hartford, Conn., June 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I am in the Worker this month to give some of the brothers of No. 37 a roast. I know it's hot enough outside, but they deserve it. The subject of my remarks is the lack of attendance at the meetings. There

are lots of members in this city who have not shown their faces at a meeting for two or three months. Now, what I would like to know is, what is the master with them, that they cannot attend at least one meeting in a month? Is it too much to ask you to come to a meeting at least once a month? If it is, I am sorry you can't leave your girl, your bicycle, or your favorite saloon at least that often. Why, there are a lot of you fellows hanging around the corners every night in the week except Friday night, and Friday night you couldn't be found by a mercantile bill collector. Now, I am going to tell you something that will undoubtedly surprise you. This local, at its last meeting, made it a law that any member who does not attend one of four consecutive meetings will be fined twenty-five cents, and it will be charged up to them as dues, unless they can give a very good excuse for their non-attendance. This lack of interest in the union has got to come to an end. If a man don't take enough interest in the union to attend a meeting once in four weeks, we don't want him. What good is he, any way, to any local? No good. We don't need his money, and what is more, we don't want it. If he thinks we do, he can get over that idea right now and go and join some insurance, or social order, where he can get better returns for the money invested than we could give him. It has come to a pass where we have got to weed, and we are going to do it, even if it cuts our membership down to one-half. That one-half we will be able to depend on; and now we don't know what we've got. Here we are initiating new members every meeting night, and we get barely a quorum. We can't even get our full quota of officers. The consequence is the initiation is a farce, and it gives the new members the impression that it don't amount to much, as well as setting a bad example for them. Now, I will say to these brothers, and I am voicing the sentiments of the brothers who take an active interest in this local, that if you don't think enough of the union to attend the meetings, don't send up any more dues, but just let us know you are out of it. A postal card will do, and we will not be one bit sorry to lose you. Money will never build up the National Brotherhood to a position where it can benefit the members. What we want is action. If we had more interest taken in this local the electric company would not have a gang of linemen counting up about twenty, out of which there are about two union men; nor an inside gang with about the same number of union men and about half a dozen dubs. They could long ago have had shorter hours and better wages but for the lack of interest.

Local 37 suffered by a fire, a week ago, the loss of all their electrical display, which was stored in a building on State street.

It cost the local about two hundred dollars and an immense amount of labor, and it will be a very difficult matter to replace it in time for our next annual dance.

I would like to say to the brothers of No. 4 that we are very sorry that we are compelled to give up to them one of our brother members who has gone to New Orleans to work for the Edison General Electric on the underground, namely, Bro. Roberts. He was one of our most active and earnest workers, and while we feel the loss, we know that Bro. Roberts will always be an active union man, no matter where he goes, and we all join in wishing him every success among the brothers of No. 4.

Fraternally yours,  
M. P. SULLIVAN,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 38.

Cleveland, June 7, 1899.

My Dear Nephew:

The time has arrived for your uncle to retire from the field of journalism. Time's up. Election will be held this month and some one better able to give you the news and current events relating to 38, its wants and needs, will doubtless be elected. I have filled the required term, six months. During that time I have written more or less nonsense—stuff, if you please—knowing that there was in it little that was instructive, useful, or beneficial to anyone. No one knows this better than your uncle, but he is a believer in the old saw, "A little frolic now and then is relished by the best of men;" "Variety is the spice of life," etc. Taking these old saws for my cue I have written this nonsense to make up a variety of reading for the readers of the Worker. There are others who are able and have from time to time written upon subjects scientific and political, etc., etc.; let them keep it up. The press secretaries have done well, and I am sure, if they do as well the six months to come as they have the six months past, the first of January, 1900, will see the Worker established as one of the foremost journals of organized labor. Let the good work go on.

I want to thank Nos. 5, 38 and 72 for their contributions to the Wright fund, and especially do I want to shake hands with No. 4, of New Orleans; for a local that has been through most of the vicissitudes of life, had her treasury looted, besides many other troubles, I think she is entitled to the thanks of the brotherhood. Here is my hand, brothers; shake. I have met several of the boys from No. 4, so I am sure the local in New Orleans is made up of the timber we hear our granddads talk about. Let's shake again, brothers.

I understand other locals not yet heard from will contribute this month. That's right, my hearties; let the good work go on.

No. 38 is prosperous and happy, and most of the boys are working. Jack Ste-

phens took upon himself a helper (non-union), but, in sympathy with the cause, Jack sent over a jug of Old Madeira, and the boys sent back their blessings. Several of the boys from No. 4 are working in town. Bro. Thomas, of No. 10, I believe is still with us. Bro. Jack Forbes, of No. 17, is also in town. Jack gave us a good talk a couple of weeks ago. He, in common with many others who have visited 38, was disappointed. Some of the boys have got it into their heads that 38 is a sort of a one-horse local, and dull at that; but if they could only attend one of our meetings and see the attendance of from 75 to 100 members every Wednesday night, they would change their minds, as did Bro. Jack of 17. All of the boys who have come to Cleveland so far have their cards with them, paid right up to date, like little men.

I am in receipt, and have been for some time, of letters from electrical workers in different parts of Canada. They want to come into the Brotherhood, and I am sure that the delegates to the next convention will make the organization international. This will benefit the Brotherhood and help the cause of labor over the border.

No. 38 is trying an experiment in regard to the Worker. Instead of having the paper sent to each individual, the G. S. sends them to the P. S. in a bunch and he takes them to the meeting and distributes them there. So, if a brother wants a paper he must come to the meeting to get it. So many papers went astray that we hit upon this plan, and it works fine.

I had the honor to represent 38 at the big labor mass convention held at Columbus June 1; representatives from all over the State were there. Perhaps in some future number I may tell you what we did, and expect to do, politically, in Ohio. While in Columbus I met one of the brothers of No. 8; I cannot remember his name, but he was up-to-date all right. I was surprised in not seeing some of our boys from Cincinnati; I did, however, meet the father of Cincinnati's press secretary, and I want to say right here that if the P. S. is a chip of the old block, the N. B. E. W. will not suffer for a champion of its interests.

Now, my boy, you'll have to excuse your uncle, for this is his moving week. We find, after due consideration, that it's cheaper to move than to pay rent, but oh, it's tough on one's morals to swear up a stove-pipe and cuss down a carpet. It does not tend to make a man "remember his Creator in the days of his youth." I tell you, my dear nephew, I am nearly played out, and hoping you are enjoying the same blessing, I will stop short.

From your UNCLE TOM.

#### Local Union No. 40.

St. Joseph, Mo., June 8, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

There is very little news this month.

Everybody is working and too busy even to attend lodge; as a matter of fact we do not expect as good attendance in the summer months as the winter. But it seems funny that a brother can attend other lodges and societies regular, but cannot get around to the union once in a while. Several of our brothers are away behind with their dues, and some day it will be the "same old story" with them. Pay up, brothers, that "rainy day" is coming. Several of the boys who are behind with us managed to raise the initiation fee in other lodges and are then greatly surprised when they get blackballed.

I intend to write a short history of No. 40, and if you want your name in the proper column you must pay up before I write my next letter.

No. 40 does not amount to much nor do we have a very large attendance, except when somebody has "an ax to grind." But there is not a member who begrudges the money it costs him, still we are able to keep our members in good positions, and occasionally get them a raise in wages.

There is one thing we would like to have the editor explain, "why is it that we are compelled to pay \$1.20 per year for the Worker when the regular subscription price is but \$1.00 per year?"

The Central Labor Council's paper, the St. Joseph Union, is prospering; it is a weekly paper at \$1.00 per year. The electrical workers were highly honored by having Bro. James T. Motter, made its editor and manager.

There is a movement on foot now to have the Building and Trades Council revived. That will help No. 40, as there is at present but one inside wireman in good standing and that is Bro. G. E. McCormac, with the American Electric Co.

Brother John Webb is at the Ensworth hospital.

Several of the brothers are taking a course in the National Correspondence School at Scranton, and all expect to be great electricians some day. We hope you will, brothers, then probably your union will reap some benefit for your non-attendance now. There is an old saying, if you want to keep a man away from your lodge just elect him President or to the highest office, and when he gets through the chairs he will absent himself most of the time. Well, we have found a new plan; just appoint him on a committee to draft a new set of by-laws. We refer to brothers McCarty and Greyson.

We do wish our number was something else besides 40, for when one gets through reading that Uncle Tom letter, they never have any time to read the next.

The position of P. S. is not a pleasant one at all times. There is always some one censuring and very few praising you. Below I will give you my experience; almost every meeting night just after we

receive our Worker: Happy, nervous, anxious, expectant, desperate, aroused, disheartened, jubilant, disgusted, buoyant, doubtful, hopeful, despondent, discouraged, disappointed, conceited.

Fraternally,  
Y'S,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 41.

Buffalo, N. Y., June 8, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

Being somewhat late this month I am afraid my article will be quite short and probably not very interesting, although the doings in Local 41 for the past month have been quite so. We have quietly asked, been refused, struck, and won out, and the scale of wages for journeymen wiremen in the city of Buffalo is now 30c. per hour and an eight-hour day until further notice. The boys feel very well satisfied with the result of the two-weeks strike, and too much praise cannot be given the committee in charge for the way in which they so successfully conducted the strike. I might say a word for the members—each and every one of them behaved like gentlemen and looked into every question carefully, intelligently and peacefully. All seem satisfied, and I do not believe that local 41 will have any more grievances for awhile.

I am sorry to have to say we had to accept the resignations from office of two of our old-time members. Bro. Al. Cunningham, our treasurer, has accepted a very responsible position putting in a large 20,000-volt power plant in Canada. Al. is a warm member and we all feel confident he will use his best efforts to organize the boys in Canada, also do what he can to have a representative from Canada at our next convention, in October, at Pittsburg. We wish Al. all manner of success, and hope he will return in time to make some of the dollars the boys are laying for during the Pan-American Exposition. The second resignation was that of Bro. Harry M. Scott, the only financial secretary the local has had since receiving its charter. It was a hard blow, and there was a very long debate, all to no purpose. We had to give in and accept the resignation. Harry will stay with us just the same, and promises to give all the assistance he can in keeping things in working order.

Bro. W. H. Kelly has taken his usual summer vacation, but I believe he is to combine business and pleasure. Bro. Kelly has gone to the Thousand Islands for two or three weeks. While there he will superintend the putting in of several offices for the Postal Telegraph Co. We all hope that Willie will return much improved in health, for you know he is of quite a delicate nature. I don't believe he weighs over 250 pounds at present. We do so hope his sojourn at the Islands will prove

beneficial to and recuperate his frail frame.

I was informed at our last regular meeting that Bro. John Misner is about to launch out into business for himself. I believe he is going to open a transformer, or a place called The Transformer, I mean. I did not hear whether it was a step up, or a step down, but you can bet if you give John a call, he will make it a booster. You can feel perfectly safe with John, for if you get an overload he has good working limits which will prevent any burn-out. His stock of goods will be strictly first-class, with all up-to-date improvements.

One of the most important events of the season will be a picnic to be held at Edgewater, on Niagara river, given by Local 45. I believe, or in fact I know, that Local 38 of Cleveland are to be the guests of Local 45. Local 41 has been tendered a very cordial invitation to attend. We have passed resolutions to give Local 45 our most hearty support and assist all we can in making their outing a success. Local 48 will come by boat, stopping at Toledo and Erie, and bring a number of the boys from Locals 3 and 56. I hope that Local 44 of Rochester and 43 of Syracuse will be well represented, for I know Local 45 will take good care of all the visiting brotherhood and give them a day's pleasure long to be remembered.

I would like to say to Bro. Gleason, of 38, please see that our Uncle Tom catches the boat, and, if possible, resurrect some of Local 80's members and bring them along. I will see to it that myself and Bro. Taylor will do our best to entertain them.

I would say to the electrical workers, Buffalo at the present time is not very brisk. Although the site for the Pan-American has been selected, there will be nothing doing in the way of electric work for some time. I shall endeavor to keep in pace with the work, and just as soon as it starts I will let you know, no matter whether I am press secretary or not. The columns of the journal are open to all good N. B. E. W. men.

Fraternally yours,  
WM. A. BEESE,  
Press Secretary.

#### Local Union No. 44.

Rochester, N. Y., June 11, '99.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

Well, how is everything with you this month? With us it is fine. All of the brothers are pegging along, as usual, with lots of work and a new telephone company in sight that promises to be a success in the near future.

We have a little excitement now at 44, as it is time to elect a new set of officers, and also to get our lamps on a man to send to the next convention. I think you will all agree with me that we can not be too particular about the man that we intend to place in that responsible position.

I don't think there are any of the boys on the repair list at present. I am,

Yours truly,  
H. N. S.

#### Local Union No. 45.

Buffalo, June 4, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

I find that nearly another month has elapsed since my last publication in the Worker, and I hasten with a few remarks to help fill the columns of our June number.

Local No. 45 has been seriously contemplating holding a great picnic this summer and we have been more or less discussing the subject for some time. At our regular meeting of May 20th, the local requested the chair to appoint a large committee to devise ways and means by which such an affair could be brought to a successful termination, and the chairman complied with the request. The committee met on Wednesday evening, May 24th, in a select chamber at Council Hall to discuss matters. No newspaper reporters were admitted, only your humble servant for the Electrical Worker, and I must say that they reminded me very forcibly of that great peace conference which is now sitting at the Hague, devising ways to bring about a disarmament of Europe. Brother Haley, one of our past presidents, was appointed as chairman, and he is indeed a fit representative of Baron de Staal, the Czars' most favorite diplomat who fills the chair of that august committee. Now after duly discussing affairs among themselves they soon found that it required the cooperation of the master minds of the whole local in order to make a glorious success of the affair. We want it to be recorded in the annals of our local's history as the greatest event of the nineteenth century, and I have no hesitation in prophesying that it will be. We expect to eclipse and outshine everything in its line, even surpassing the Schley dinner and the Bradley-Martin ball. Now I wish to impress upon all the neighboring locals that this might be called a reunion as No. 38, of Cleveland, Ohio, is going to attend in full force, and we expect that she will be re-enforced by all the locals along the lake and will arrive in Buffalo about 1,000 strong. Our twin sister, Local No. 41, will be represented to a man, and as for No. 44 of Rochester, well we expect to see the whole city up to help add to the splendor of the occasion. It is going to be held on the 4th of July and there is no use staying in Rochester when such an event is being pulled off in Buffalo on that great day. The only thing that annoys us is, we are a little afraid of over-shadowing the Pan-American, if such a thing is possible. I take this opportunity to extend a cordial invitation to all those neighboring locals and I desire that my invitation be more sweeping and far reaching in its effects.

I therefore extend it to every local within the boundaries of the Atlantic and Pacific and the Gulf and Lakes and expect that each and every local will be represented, even if it be by only one member, and I feel positive that they will go away well pleased and satisfied for having come from the four winds of the nation and spent a day of amusement with one of the foremost councils of the National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers.

Yours very truly,  
J. J. CASEY.

#### Local Union No. 46.

Lowell, Mass., June 6, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

I have not the unbounded pleasure of being the regularly ordained P. S. of this local, but I received the nomination for that position at our last meeting, so I am going to try my hand at writing a letter to the Worker, and if I like the work I will put up a hot campaign between now and the election of officers. If I don't like it I will positively decline to run. In the absence of our regular, legal P. S. Bro. Barrett and myself agreed to send some little thing to the paper just to let the "boys" know that 46 wasn't dead. I didn't want to do it this hot weather, but thought I could "Barrett" if he could. He will write all the news. I am only going to fill up space, and if you don't like it, why just speak up like men and say so. No brick-bats, dead cats or anything like that; they hurt a fellow's feeling, and they are not gentlemanly arguments anyway.

The poor, overworked carbon trimmers for the Lowell Electric Light Corp. have had a heap of trouble the past month over a newly appointed foreman. I am going to tell you all about it, I got tired telling it to the policemen, in fact they got tired of listening and intimated that I had better shut up, intimated with a club and it carried weight too. But about the foreman. Did you ever notice what a queer effect that title has when it is given to some men. Foreman; you know the definition of the word, one who does nothing and gets a salary for doing it. I came very near being appointed foreman over a gang of men once, but just at the last moment, just as I was beginning to figure up how much more "booze" I could buy with the new salary, some "mean cuss" told the general manager that I was known to have shown (way back in the remote past), dangerous symptoms of almost human intelligence, and I got turned down. I don't think that they ought to hold a little thing like that against a man, but that is the way of things in this hard, cruel world—the harder a man tries to make himself worthy of a position, and just as he thinks he is going to gain the goal of his ambitions, some little thing way back in his life which he is heartily

ashamed of is raked up and used against him. For years I had been striving to gain the proper level of ignorance and brutality necessary to become a qualified foreman over my fellowmen, and had "scored a hit" as far as brutality was concerned, and was almost ignorant enough to be a "cop" or a train dispatcher, or the head of an information bureau, but I couldn't keep down the past. We had a new foreman placed over us on the 1st of May, and he has raised H-anna ever since. Say! he was the most brutal, bulldozing, overbearing cuss you ever heard of; orders us to call him Mister, reports every little thing to the general manager, expects us to buy his drinks, keep him in cigars, and contribute towards the support of his wife and family. But we soaked him! Brother Barrett will tell you about it. Some men are not like this one. You know how some men would take promotion in a quiet, gentlemanly manner, treating everybody just the same as before they assumed such prominence. Above all they would never forget to be modest and unassuming. All great men are modest. I am myself, though I don't show off about it. In fact, my friends say that you would hardly notice it. In a fit of temporary abberation of the mind the other night I took occasion to compare specimens of my handwriting with different samples of writing included in an article on "reading character from handwriting," and the result honestly justifies me in the most modest and conservative opinion I have always had of my rare abilities. My writing contained—according to my very impartial comparison of the specimens—each and every good characteristic of them all. According to that article I am everything that is good and great, a model man, a pattern for all to copy (25 cents a pattern, please). Blushingly, I mention a few (out of many hundreds) of the "good things" I am, "Courageous to Rashness," "Prudent and Sagacious," generous to a fault, a great student and a careful planner, a master hand at intuition and deductive reasoning, tenacious and persevering, noble of character, etc., etc. I only stop quoting for lack of space. Now all this is strictly true, I've known it myself a long, long time, but such is my extreme modesty of bearing that not even my closest friends have suspected the truth. "I don't look it," so they say, jealous you see; but it is all down there in that magazine in printers' ink, so it must be true. No! I don't think I will run for president next year. Give Billy Bryan a chance, my time is sure to come, and I will be magnanimous this trip and let him or some other poor fellow take the place.

That is all this time, Mr. Editor; only you might notify the brothers that photographs may be obtained by forwarding ten cents to the writer.

Later—Say, that foreman that I spoke of, well, he has been turned down for good. They put a new man in his place to-day. Sound the good news all over the land, so that in case he comes your way you can give him the cold shoulder.

4-11-44.

#### Local Union No. 46.

Lowell, Mass., June 2, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

I will drop a few lines to the Worker just to let the brothers know what we are doing. Bro. Joe McDonnell is sick with the measles but at present he is doing well. There is no great amount of work here at present. No 46 had occasion to put in her first kick. I said a great many things in last month's letter about changes in the L. E. light corps but I will tell about one this month that I did not mention on May 3rd. The manager of the Lowell Electric Light Co. called the trimmers to his office and told them that one Frank Leonard would be their boss hereafter. Leonard is well known among the journeymen linemen of New England and they all know he is no good, either practically or in principle. To gain a point he will undermine his fellow workmen and there is no limit to his deceitfulness, and after two weeks of his harsh treatment the trimmers formed a committee of the whole. About half of them belong to the union and they went to see the manager on May 18th, and on May 31st we got our answer which was that Frank Leonard would not have charge of us any longer. This same Leonard was the cause of No. 46 going up the spout here some years ago by telling the Superintendent what was going on in the union. I will say that some of the boys wished to strike at that time, but better counsel prevailed and we acted like men in an arbitrary manner and won everything asked for. I would like some of the boys about town, who think unions are no good to take stock in what the trimmers done as it will be of future use to them. I happened along the other day and found Brother Murphy singing "I'm in love with the man in the moon" on a sixty foot pole. Our meetings waxed warm of late and we are trying hard to enlarge our numbers but it is a tough job here; too much afraid of the little job is what the matter is, but when it is all work and hardly any pay then something must be done they will say. Do it now, boys, join the union.

#### Local Union No. 52.

Newark, N. J., June 2, 1899.

**Editor Electrical Worker:**

Will you kindly publish in your valuable and esteemed Journal a portion of N. J. law. I will quote it: "Any person or persons who shall assault, mob, or do violence (in any way conceivable or inconceivable) to any editor, reporter or press secretary shall be punished."

4-11-44.

I am nominated for P. S. and I expect to be elected. Brother Larkins has resigned and nobody else will take it and I am electioneering night and day and my friends are standing by me like true friends always do. If I am elected there is one murderer, robber, thief and all around scoundrel who I will expose if he doesn't reform. To hide my identity I will sign all communications "Lazyman." Of course I am not afraid, but a person must take care of his health. As I will have to buy a postage stamp anyhow to send you this, I will tell you what we did at our last regular meeting, June 2nd. We nominated a full set of officers, the names of which I will send you after election. We adopted resolutions protesting against the employment of Government troops to break up labor organizations. In conclusion the resolutions demand that the President and Secretary of War immediately withdraw the continuance of the National Government from the atrocious violation of liberty and the rights of American citizenship; that they recall Gen. Merriman and notify the Governor of Idaho that the military force of the U. S. can be used only for the constitutional purpose of protecting against invasion and domestic violation, and not for the suppression of legitimate associations of working-men.

Bro. Blaicklock is back to work after three months illness.

Bro. Stiver has accepted a position in New York State.

Yours fraternally,  
"LAZYMAN."

Newark, N. J., June 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:  
Electric workers here in Newark are falling into line;  
We expect to have them all in e'er the end of '99.  
Winders, binders and connectors, line and wiremen, too,  
All ride the goat each meeting night of Local 52.

When we organized three months ago we were all at "sea,"

And were going to affiliate with New York's No. 3,

Then Bro. Sherman came to us and proved it was no good;

We changed our minds, and thanks to him we joined the Brotherhood.

We got our Charter; the news soon spread, and workers in this town

Knew it was a God-send, for wages were way down;

Filled out their applications, the proper thing to do,

And now we are two hundred strong in Local 52.

We did not look for trouble, but soon it came our way;

The employees of the Traction Co.'s were all called in the office one day;

The wages they were getting were exactly cut in two;  
They quit their jobs right then and there, there was nothing else to do.

There are black sheep in every flock, and I'm sorry for to say  
That there was one amid our men who at his work did stay.  
He was a "scab," as all can guess, and showed his colors, too,  
But he will be dealt with according to the laws of "52."

The trouble did not last a week; the men are back once more,  
And every man is getting better pay than he got before;

A happier lot of fellows never dawned upon your view  
Than those boys, all charter members of Local 52.

It never rains unless it pours, and so it was right here,

For the Crocker Wheeler Company doing business at "ampere,"

Locked out their men (all winders) but for it they did rue,

For they found out that they were backed by Local 52.

The men all stuck like leeches, and before a week had flown

The company sent for our committee to meet one of their own;

The firm signed our agreement, 'twill please every one of you

To hear that "victory came once more to Local 52."

So, boys, get on a hustle, for your "leurels" are at stake,

If you want to get ahead of us you all must keep awake,

For our members are all working hard, and when we do get through,

There will be few locals in the Brotherhood ahead of 52.

FRANK J. MCNULTY,  
Vice-President Local 52.

#### Local Union No. 56.

Erie, Pa., June 4, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As I have cut down all the hedges and trees between Erie, Pa., and Westfield, N. Y., and have to cut down about twenty miles more between Westfield and Dunkirk, N. Y., I have told everybody about it and can't get any one to believe it, so I want you to publish it in the Worker. I have been putting new cross beams and bottles on my poles, and I am trying to get my line fixed up so I can sell it before the company takes it away from me. But I am having quite a time with the wires and the farmers. One man gave us a pitcher of grape wine for trimming his trees, and another one was going to send us to Mayville to pound stone with a little hammer, and I don't like a little hammer.

I could go on and tell you about myself for four hours but it's Sunday and I don't like to hear any one talk about themselves on Sunday.

Of course, there are a few other up and down men and salamonaic disturbers in and around Erie that I can speak of. The first man of great importance that I think of is Jim Rush, the liner; I saw his nice wide open countenance this a. m., and he gave me a smile and his countenance opened.

Some of the smaller brothers of 56 are planning for a picnic and a pie eating match, followed by hole digging and wire fixing.

Bro. George Burger has bought a pony. He buys a pony most every Sunday.

The brothers of 56 decided that a wire fixer was worth about \$2.50 per day and all companies agreed to pay it except the Edison Electric Light Co. and so they weren't doing any work and only charged us \$7.00 for current for our dance and display and we didn't think it was right to say much to them.

I can't say much about the general matters of 56 as I have got too much farming to do this summer to attend to our meetings and so I can't keep posted. But any way I cease.

Fraternally yours,

L. E. C.,  
Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 60.

San Antonio, Tex., June 4, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As No. 60 failed to make its appearance in last month's Worker, I will try and let the brothers see something from us this month. No. 60 is rolling along nicely, and we feel proud of its success and progress; it's both a pride and a pleasure to all true union men to see their local improve in membership. I am sure if all the brothers will keep together, act together and stand together in the interest of our Brotherhood, that it won't be long before every wire-worker in the Alamo city will be a union man.

Last Saturday night we initiated six new members, and they tell me they had a nice, warm time. On account of illness I could not be present, but from what the boys say I know they enjoyed themselves. Bro. C. E. McNemar had all he could do to get home after the ball. The boys found the goat rather hard to manage, and Charlie laughed till it liked to have killed him dead. I'll write a more lengthy letter next time.

With best wishes to all the brothers, sincerely and fraternally yours,

S. L. H., Press Sec.

#### Local Union No. 69.

Dallas, Texas.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Everything seems to be going all O. K.

in Dallas. Every one working and all seem to be doing well. We have the largest membership now that we have had since our organization, and have only had one member lapse in the last three months, but if some of them do not come up pretty soon they will be gone and things may change, and they might have to look for a job. It is so much nicer when you ask a fellow for a job and he asks "do you belong to the Brotherhood?" If you have an up to date card to show you won't have to make a lot of excuses of which a good part of them may not be true.

Well, brothers, I have no doubt but a few of you will read this letter if it is not consigned to the waste basket and I hope it will not be, for it makes me feel all over in spots to see my name in print, but I am afraid that some of our Press Secretaries do not feel the same as I do or we would see more letters from them. I have got a little card I have had for a number of years that I think about covers Bro. Wright's case so I will send it along.

#### GIVE HIM A LIFT.

In passing through life's uncertain way Providence may have been more kind to you than to him; if so, then help him all you can to cast a ray of sunshine on his pathway. Accidents will happen who can tell when, or why.

Give him a lift, don't kneel in prayer or moralize at his despair,  
The man is down and his great need, is ready help, not prayer or creed.  
'Tis time when wounds are washed and healed the inner motive be revealed,  
But just now one grain of aid is more to him than themes of vanity and love.

Pray if you will within your heart,  
Give him a lift, give him a start,  
This world is full of advice,  
Of prayer and praise and preaching nice.  
But generous souls who aid mankind,  
Are like the diamonds, hard to find;  
And they shall wear a glorious crown,  
Who help boys up when they are down.

Give him what you can and then give ten cents more.

Thanking Bro. Sherman in advance for publishing this, I will close for this time, hoping our P. S. will have a letter this month, and wishing good luck to all union men and the reverse to scabs and all others.

Fraternally,  
W. B. COURTNEY.

#### Local Union No. 72.

Waco, Tex., May 29, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

As Bro. E. P. McBroom could not be with us, I was appointed to fill the unexpired time for which he was appointed.

Everything is moving along smoothly with us. Bro. Kane was not with us at our last meeting. He had a good reason for

not being present, as he was going to get married. We congratulate him.

We are still taking in new members and hope to be in better shape to receive new members and visiting brothers in the near future, as we are going to get in a larger hall, and have room to do things up in great shape.

Electrical work is still on the boom here. The Independent people started out on their territorial line today with a gang of about fifty, so I was told. I guess the Southwestern Tel. & Tel. Co. think by this time that the Independent Co. mean business; they did not at first. The Southwestern are doing considerable work, as they will have to get things in good shape, to compete with the new company.

Before I close I will tell you where I work. I am working for the Waco Electrical Supply and Plumbing Co., the only electrical supply house in the south.

We will be glad to have any of the boys who are passing through call on us. As this is my first I will make it short. With best wishes to all the Brothers,

I am, Yours truly,  
F. D. RODGERS,  
Press Secretary.

**Who Will Help?**  
Columbus, Ohio, June, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

I would like to say a word in behalf of the condition of affairs as they stand in this city. I am glad to say almost every trade and business here is unionized, with the exception of the Electrical Workers, and they are in a demoralized State indeed. In fact, it would seem that they are beyond redemption, from the fact that the Bell Telephone Company's city foreman is a veritable machine for making "would-be" linemen, and that's all they are! Now these "salamoniac disturbers" are receiving from 50 cents to \$1.50 per day of 14 hours, or from sunrise to sunset.

I worked here four days but I'll say to you all, I got the sum of \$2.25 per day (and that was 50 cents more than the sub-foremen were getting), but I resigned my position from the fact that it was against my principles as a Union man to work with a number of men who are mere instruments used to run our craft in the ground by working for such wages and such hours. And what's worse than that, you can't convince them any different but what they think is just right. I hope to see a change soon, for the Columbus Citizens' Telephone Co. has secured a franchise, and I think will commence work here in about two weeks, and it ought to be the duty of the Union men, known as the "floating fraternity" to get on the ground as early as possible and show these "screwdriver" electricians where to back up at, for if we don't they will put Col. O., on the "hog train" for all time to come.

Now, hoping this will catch the eyes of some of the good Brothers, Bros. Sullivan and Sayles, for instance from No. 10, who can make Col. O., Local Union N. B. E. W. a hummer when once started, for I must admit there is some good material but they need to be shown the benefit of being bound together.

I have been assured we can have the loyal support of the Central Labor Union and Building Trades Assembly of the city to help further our cause.

Hoping to see in the near future a Local established in this city,

I am yours fraternally,  
**ONE OF NO. 10'S BOYS.**

#### A Good Offer.

Reading, Pa., May 20, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

In the April issue of your journal we notice the appeal from your correspondent signing himself as Uncle Tom in behalf of Bro. Wright, whom we understand has been disabled by paralysis. We have been thinking that we too could be of service to Bro. Wright, provided your society or order will cooperate with us in extending and introducing our brand of "8-Hour League" cigars wherever a member resides. The brand in question is strictly Union-made, 5 inches in length, spotted Sumatra wrapped, and is forwarded all charges paid upon receipt of \$3.50 per hundred. If any Lodge of Electrical Workers will care to get their dealers interested in the above cigar we are willing to give the agent's commission of 10 per cent. of all the sales for the benefit of Bro. Wright. We promise to carry out faithfully our part of the proposition, and have as a record our 13 years in Unionism to back it. What say you? What say you all?

Fraternally,  
**W. E. KRUM & CO.**

#### From "Old Crip."

Raton, New Mexico, June 5, 1899.

Editor Electrical Worker:

Although I am a little late I will try and get a few lines in for the journal this month. I have not much news to write about, but I guess the brothers would like to know that I am still living. I was glad to see so many good letters in the Worker again last month, also very much delighted to know that the locals were sending in some more money to my "Box." It will be a great help to me to get the contents of the box. I have been on the streets from day to day trying to sell collar buttons, key rings, etc., and took in 30 cents. If I can get a stock of goods in my stand right away, I am sure I could do all right. I am glad that Brother Harvey Burnett, of Local 18, is going to try to help me out. I assure every brother that helps me that he has my everlasting gratitude and I hope no other member of this Brotherhood will ever be as unfortunate as I have been.

The weather is getting warmer here now and I guess I will make a barrel of lemonade and try selling that, and if I can't sell it all I can drink it myself.

I will close hoping all the brothers are happy and successful.

Fraternally,  
ROBERT G. WRIGHT.

### In Memoriam.

Erie, Pa., June 8, '99.

Editor Electrical Worker:

The following resolutions were adopted by this Local Union No. 56 on the death of Bro. Carl Brainard:

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God in His infinite wisdom to call from our midst our esteemed brother, Carl Brainard, a member of our union, and

Whereas, We mourn the loss of one who while in life we held dear as a brother and as a friend, and while we can nevermore grasp his hand and meet his pleasant smile in this life, we can submit to Him who has called our brother's spirit to the life beyond the grave, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we extend to the bereaved family our heartfelt sympathy in their sad and unredeemable loss, and while they can not again meet the loved ones in this life, we can point them to a Saviour who said, "I go to prepare a place for you, that where I am there ye may be also;" and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be suitably engrossed and sent to the family of our deceased brother, that they be spread upon our minutes and a copy sent to our official journal for publication; also that a copy be sent to People's Paper.

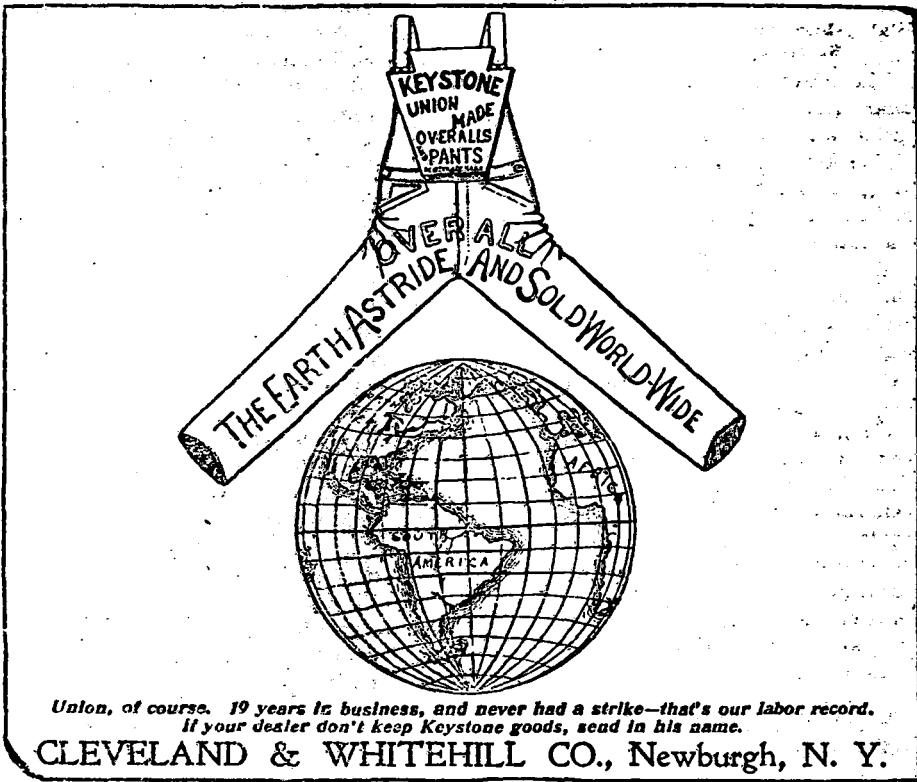
Respectfully submitted.  
HENRY PUDENZ,  
JAS. P. HANLON,  
JOHN F. ST. CLAIR.

ON THE DEATH OF THOMAS M. LEMON,  
DIED NOV. 23, 1898, IN ST. LOUIS, MO.

Blow gently, O ye wintry winds,  
Across his narrow bed—  
In the city of St. Louis,  
They say my son lies died.  
2000 volts shot through his heart,  
In the twinkling of an eye;  
Ah! when death comes to the true and  
brave  
It is not death to die.

The golden gate stood open wide,  
A gentle voice said, "Come."  
In his bright youth and manhood pride,  
He quickly entered home.

He hung upon the cross-arms high,  
Where a thousand eyes could see.  
He died as once our Saviour did,  
Without the agony.  
Up, up through the shining ether,  
He soared like a bird on the wing,  
The light shone down from the pearly gate,  
And he heard the angels sing.



*Union, of course. 19 years in business, and never had a strike—that's our labor record.  
If your dealer don't keep Keystone goods, send in his name.*

CLEVELAND & WHITEHILL CO., Newburgh, N. Y.

They said a smile was on his face  
They never saw before.

I think he heard the music sweet  
From out the open door.

His comrades hastened to his side,  
While the gaping crowd stood round—  
"Quick, throw the rope, unbuckle his belt,  
And let young Lemon down."

The physician worked with all his might,  
The linemen they stood near,  
Too paralyzed to say a word,  
Or wipe away a tear.

Superintendent Warrance came in haste,  
"What, Lemon gone this time—  
He was the most trustworthy man  
I had upon the line."

One lineman lingered near him,  
His tears told how he felt,  
He slowly up the ladder climbed,  
And brought down Lemon's belt.

It was only four short hours before,  
He kissed his wife and son,  
And then went singing to his work,  
The work that soon was done.

No more his wife will listen  
For the echo of his feet;  
No more the little boy will watch  
For his papa on the street.

"Say, mamma, where has papa gone?  
His face I do not see;  
He always hurried home at night,  
To take me on his knee.  
"Hush, baby, you will break my heart,  
With all this weight of woe.  
Your papa's face you cannot see,  
His love you'll never know."

"Come, darling, put your nighty on,  
I'll sing your evening hymn;  
Your papa cannot come to us,  
So we will go to him."

No more around the family hearth  
His letters will be read.  
To all the dear young folks at home  
His last good-bye is said.

We see his books, his empty chair,  
His fife, his drum, his sleigh,  
As we look at them they speak to us  
Of the boy that went away.

We'll think of him when the sky grows  
dark,  
When we hear the thunders roar;  
He speaks to us when the lightning flash  
Plays around the farm-house door.

We know that we shall meet again  
In that bright home on high,  
And clasp his strong right hand once more,  
And never say good-bye.

As Jesus took His heavy cross,  
And up to Calvary trod,  
So I'll lie down at His dear feet  
And leave it all with God.

I'll walk with Shadrack through the fire,  
And Daniel in the den;  
At every blow, I'll climb up higher,  
And write with a fiery pen.

Then lay aside those long black robes,  
Put on a wedding ring.  
The grave shall have no victory,  
Since death has lost his sting.

JENNIE I. LEMON,  
Bethel, Sullivan Co., N. Y.

**ELECTRICAL WORKERS STRIKE.**

**Eighty-Five "Inside" Men go out Because  
Bosses Ignored a New School.**

The Electrical Inside Wire Workers' union No. 18 ordered a strike of all the inside wire workers and as a result about eighty-five men walked out. Two reasons are given for the strike—one by the men and the other by the employers. Here is the outline of the men's grievance:

Early in the winter they presented to the employers a uniform scale of wages which they asked them (the employers) to sign. They asked for first class journeymen thirty cents an hour instead of twenty and twenty-five cents, the present rate, leaving the number of hours constituting a day's work optional with the bosses. For first class helpers they asked twenty-five cents an hour instead of fifteen and twenty cents; for second class helpers twenty cents instead of twelve and one-half, and for third class helpers fifteen cents instead of twelve and one-half and ten cents. The men also claim that the bosses on several occasions made appointments with them to talk of arbitration, but each time they ignored the engagement. They say that the employers were given until May 1st to come to terms and then the time was extended to June 1st, but as they still refused to arbitrate the strike was ordered.

The Iron Moulders' International union will hold a convention—the first in four years—at Indianapolis on July 10.

Pays highest commission on clubs of six or more.  
Postal brings SAMPLE COPY or estimates on

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**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.**

Galveston, Texas, May 3, 1899.

Robert G. Wright, while doing work as a lineman in Denton County, Texas, near the city of Denton, was caused to fall the distance of fifty-seven feet and was stricken with paralysis, and has been totally disabled since. Feeling his dependence upon his fellow craftsmen, we take this method of assisting him, by taking up subscription and forwarding same to Grand Secretary, H. W. Sherman, No. 731 Powers Building, Rochester, N. Y. Same to be sent to Robert G. Wright as soon as all Locals are heard from. Same to be money to purchase some business for afflicted brother to support wife and child, and this list to be published in our official journal.

The above explains the sad accident to Brother Wright and we sincerely hope all locals will respond as freely as Galveston. Come boys, wake up and let the good old Texas hospitality strike your hearts, and when you are romping with your children

with the thought that they are the only children on earth, remember that Brother Wright thinks the same thing. Though he can not romp and play his heart is in the right place. It has often been said that electrical workers are liberal hearted men and we know this to be a fact. Come on, boys, lets raise \$250 for Bro. Wright.

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## Directory of Unions.

Secretaries will please furnish the necessary information to make this directory complete. Note that the time and place of meeting, the name of the President, the names and addresses of the Recording and Financial Secretaries are required.

**No. 1, St. Louis, Mo.**—Meets every Monday at 604 Market st.; Pres., C. W. Campbell, 3626 California av.; R. S. Paul Fittinger, 1525 N. 12th st.; F. S., P. C. Fish, 1927 N. 15th st.

**No. 2, Kansas City, Mo.**—Pres., J. L. Cochran, 216 West 10th st.; K. C., Mo.; R. S., E. P. Myrick, 1246 Penn st.; K. C., Mo.; F. S., J. J. Saxe, 1501 Penn st., K. C., Mo.

**No. 3, St. Louis, Mo.**—Meets every Thursday at 604 Market st.; Pres., W. M. McCoy, 16 S. 17th st.; R. S., J. O'Brien, 1011 N. Leffingwell av.; F. S., Frank Davenport, 3333 Manchester av.

**No. 4, New Orleans, La.**—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at Carondelet and Perdido sts.; Pres., C. D. Hatt, 928 Common st.; F. S., George E. Wells, 724 Camp st.; R. S., Chas. Elmore, 1326 South Rampart st.

**No. 5, Pittsburg, Pa.**—Meets every Friday night in Schmerz Bldg., cor. Water and Market sts.; Pres., F. H. Haas, Oak Station P. O., Pittsburgh; R. S., Frank Lunney, 301 Robinson st., Allegheny City; F. S., F. G. Randolph, 805 Walnut st., Station D, Wilkinsburg, Pa.

**No. 6, San Francisco, Cal.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Foresters' Hall, 20 Eddy st.; Pres., J. J. Cameron, 203 Clementina st.; R. S., A. A. Whitfield, 632 Natoma st.; F. S., R. P. Gale, 1210 Broadway st.

**No. 7, Springfield, Mass.**—Meets every Wednesday at room 14 Barnes Blk., Pres., G. T. McGilvray, 30 Besse Pl.; R. S., T. J. Lynch, Chicopee Falls, Mass.; F. S., M. Farrell, 59 Broad-st.

**No. 8, Toledo, Ohio.**—Meets every Monday at Friendship Hall; Pres., C. E. Marryott, 2030 Hewey st.; R. S., E. F. Miller, 44 Hicks st.; F. S., F. M. Gensheimer, 713 Colburn st.

**No. 9, Chicago, Ill.**—Meets every Saturday at 82 Madison st., Hall 6.; Pres., H. Cullen, 53 Aberdeen st.; R. S., J. E. Peeling, 922 W. 53rd st.; F. S., J. Driscoll, 77 Fauler st.

**No. 10, Indianapolis, Ind.**—Meets every Monday at Mozart Hall, 39 S. Del. st.; Pres., John Berry, care Hdgs. Fire Dept.; R. S., Geo. R. Beecher, 813 N. Senate av.; F. S., C. J. Langdon, 801 West Pratt st.

**No. 11, Greater New York**—Pres., W. W. Vaughan, 9 Nassau st., Brooklyn; R. S., Chas. L. Rogers, 134½ Kosciusko st., Brooklyn; F. S., F. G. Ort, 334 First st., Brooklyn.

**No. 12, Detroit, Mich.**—Meets every Tuesday night at No. 9 Cadillac sq.; Pres., R. Scanlan, 90 Porter st.; R. S., G. H. Brown, 50 Chester av.; F. S., Thomas H. Forbes, 417 Avery ave.

**No. 13, Kansas City, Mo.**—Meets every Friday night, Labor Hdgs., 1117 Walnut st.; Pres., H. V. Lewis, 935 Osage ave., K. C., Kau.; R. S., F. J. Schadel, 612 Wall st., K. C., Mo.; F. S., C. F. Drolenger, 613 Delaware st., K. C., Mo.

**No. 14, Atchison, Kan.**—Pres., F. J. Roth, 906 N. Tenth st.; R. S., H. G. Wickensham; F. S., R. E. Easton, 600 Conell st.

**No. 15, Omaha, Neb.**—Meets every Wednesday at Labor Temple, 17th & Douglas sts.; Pres., W. P. Leedom, 2024 Grave st.; R. S., J. F. Simpson, 3519 W. Farum st.; F. S., M. J. Curran, 617 S. 16th st.

**No. 16, St. Paul, Minn.**—Pres., J. H. Roadhouse, 150 Sherburne av.; R. S., W. B. Tubbesing, 497 Martin st.; F. S., A. H. Garrett, 175 Richmond st.

**No. 17, Minneapolis, Minn.**—Pres., O. P. Shortall; R. S., W. I. Heywood, 16 E. 26th st.; F. S., P. H. C. Wood, 2731 Tremont av. S.

**No. 18, Louisville, Ky.**—Meets first and third Thursdays of each month; Pres., James Allen, Columbia Bldg., 4th and Main sts.; F. S., E. H. Venerable, 405 W. Market st.; R. S., McGonigale Miller, care Union Hall, 516 5th st.

**No. 19, Washington, D. C.**—Meets every Saturday at 1204 Penn av.; Pres., John Hoffecker, 1007 N. Carolina av. S.E.; R. S., J. C. O'Connell, 930 K. st., N. W.; F. S., G. A. Malone, 45 L. st., N. W.

**No. 20, Baltimore, Md.**—Meets every Monday at Hall, cor. Fayette and Park avs.; Pres., W. W. Welsh, 1420 Aisquith st.; R. S., A. R. Larkin, 1715 Wosher st.; F. S., F. H. Russell, 1408 Aisquith st.

**No. 21, Cincinnati, O.**—Meets 1st and 3d Mondays at 126 E. Court st.; Pres., Wm. Williams, 1325 Broadway; F. S., Wm. Price, 1060 Celestial st., Mt. Auburn City; F. S., Geo. R. Hildebrand, 403 E. 3rd st., Cincinnati Ohio.

**No. 22, Anaconda, Mont.**—Pres., Thos. Dwyer, care Elect. Light Co.; R. S., J. F. Reed —; F. S., Chas. McDonald, Carroll, Mont.

**No. 23, Lima, O.**—Pres., O. G. Snyder, 812 High st.; R. S., W. C. Holmes, 115 Harrison ave., Lima, Ohio; F. S., C. L. Wheaton, 222 N. Elizabeth st.

**No. 24, Boston, Mass.**—Meets every Wednesday at 39 Bennett st.; Pres., T. R. McElveen, 21 Moulton st. Charlestown, Mass.; R. S., J. B. Jeffers, 27 McLean st.; F. S., W. C. Woodward, 10 Church st.

**No. 25, Sacramento, Cal.**—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at Foresters' Hall; Pres., Chas. M. Durkee, 624 G st.; R. S., William F. Morley, 529½ Z st.; F. S., H. O. Hutton, 1617 M. st.

**No. 26, Hartford, Conn.**—Meets every Wednesday at 603 Main st. Pies, W. H. Crowley, 23 Spring st.; R. S., M. P. Sullivan, 77 Asylum st.; F. S., J. Tracy, 58 Temple st.

**No. 27, Cleveland, O.**—Meets every Wednesday night at 356 Guttiario st.; Pres., Geo. H. Gleason, 1121 St. Clair st.; R. S., R. M. Ross, 59 Colgate st.; F. S., A. Herron, 4 Wallace st.

**No. 28, St. Joseph, Mo.**—Meets every Thursday night at Brokaw Hall, 8th and Locust sts.; Pres., Frank P. St. Clair, R. Y. Co.; R. S., Wm. T. Dorsel, R.Y. Co.; F. S., J. C. Schneider, City Elec. St. Co.

**No. 29, Buffalo, N. Y.**—Meets every Wednesday at Council Hall; Pres., Wm. A. Breeze, 351 Vermont st.; R. S., J. O'Connell, 614 Fargo av.; F. S., Abe Hussey, 598 Fargo av.

**No. 30, Utica, N. Y.**—Pres., W. T. Carter, 68 Neilson st.; R. S., G. C. Carter, 26 Elm st.; F. S., F. Daubner, 210 Blandina st.

**No. 31, Syracuse, N. Y.**—Meets 1st and 3d Tuesdays at McCarthy's Hall, Market st., opp. City Hall; Pres., A. Donovan, 310 Niagara st.; R. S., F. N. Stiles, 734 E. R. R. S.; F. S., Wm. H. Gough, 108 Hawthorne st.

**No. 32, Rochester, N. Y.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Odd Fellows' Hall, State st.; Pres., J. P. Wolff, 9 Cedar st.; R. S., A. L. Deinstein, 14 Baldwin st.; F. S., Fred Martin, 30 Champlain st.

**No. 33, Buffalo, N. Y.**—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays at Council Hall; Pres., F. Devlin, 711 Virginia st.; R. S., J. Dingbaum; F. S., M. E. Stable, 46 Kall st.

**No. 34, Lowell, Mass.**—Meets every Thursday at 202 Merrimack st., 3d floor, room 5; Pres., Herbert L. Whitcomb, 6 Puffer av.; R. S., Jas. Barrett, 17 First st.; F. S., H. F. Harding, 38 E. Pine st.

**No. 35, Sioux City, Ia.**—Pres., J. J. Sullivan, 1701 Center st.; R. S., A. Shortley, 1666 4th st.; F. S., R. H. Greer, 201 11th st.

**No. 36, Milwaukee, Wis.**—Pres., F. G. Raymond, 600 Island av.; R. S., M. J. Quirk, 2718 Claybourne st.; F. S., O. C. Karster, 916 Richard st.

**No. 37, Chicago, Ill.**—Meets every Second and Fourth Tuesday at Jung's Hall, 166 E. Randolph st.; Pres., F. J. Truble, 40 W. Division st.; R. S., Walter J. Denapay, 153 Throop st.; F. S., Chas. Fowler, 219 W. Congress st.

**No. 38, Newark, N. J.**—Pres., J. H. Thomas, 346 W. 59th st., N. Y. City; R. S., W. S. Harrington, 24 Willow st., Bloomfield N. J.; F. S., Ed. Blakelock, 7 Linden st., Newark, N. J.

**No. 39, Harrisburg, Pa.**—Pres., C. A. Swager, 115½ Market st.; R. S., Jas. Eumpinger, 25 N. 15th st.; F. S., C. And. 1800, 46 Summitt st.

**No. 40, Des Moines, Ia.**—Meets every Thursday night at Trades Assembly Hall; Pres., J. Fitzgerald, 1914 Siner st.; R. S., C. C. Ford, 715 Scott st.; F. S., M. O. Tracey, 212 Raceon st.

**No. 41, Erie, Pa.**—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays; Pres., P. Jacobs, 161 East 70th st.; R. S., L. E. Carson, 303 French st.; F. S., J. F. St. Clair, 711 French st.

**No. 42, Salt Lake City, Utah.**—Pres., J. K. Blair, 258 S. 2nd Fast st.; R. S., J. Hodgeson, Utah Power House; F. S., A. W. Scott, Valley House.

**No. 43, San Antonio, Tex.**—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays at 6 p. m., in Painters' Hall, 131 Soldad st.; Pres., Martin Wright, 114 Romine st.; R. S., A. C. Larum, 116 Nebraska st.; F. S., Chas. E. McNamee, 848 Av. D.

**No. 44, Los Angeles, Calif.**—Pres., P. Buchanan, 357 N. Main st.; R. S., W. A. Woods, Box 34 Station B; F. S., S. L. Brose, 441 Colton st.

**No. 45, Troy, N. Y.**—F. S., M. J. Keyes, No. 3 Short 7th st.

**No. 46, Warren, Pa.**—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays at D. O. H. Hall, cor. 2d and Liberty sts.; Pres., F. W. Lesser, Liberty st.; R. S., R. V. Allen, Kevere House; F. S., N. H. Spencer, Rogers Bl.

**No. 47, Butte, Mont.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays in Good Templars' Hall; Pres., Jas. Davidson, 119 Osaway Blk.; R. S., W. C. Medhurst, P. O. Box 846; F. S., E. M. DeMers, P. O. Box 546.

**No. 48, Houston, Tex.**—Meets 1st and 3d Mondays; Pres., Geo. O. Wood, 1203 Capital av.; R. S., W. P. Johnson, Telephone Office; F. S., W. E. Caywood, 1413 Franklin av.

**No. 49, Quincy, Ill.**—Meets 2d and 4th Wednesdays at Trades Assembly Hall, S. 8th st.; Pres., J. H. Nessler, 525 Maiden Lane st.; J. M. Redmond, 825 Jersey st.; F. S., C. H. McNemee, 511 S. 7th st.

**No. 50, Denver, Col.**—Meets Monday nights at 1731 Arapho st., Club Bldg.; Pres., F. Meeger, 1931 Penn av.; R. S., F. A. Warner, 1110 Larimer st.; F. S., C. W. Armstrong, 634 30th av.

**No. 51, Dallas, Tex.**—Meets every Tuesday evening at Labor Hall; Pres., P. F. Barnes, 172 Akard st.; R. S., C. E. Boston, 438 Main st.; F. S., C. T. Wheeler, 438 Main st.

**No. 52, Cripple Creek, Col.**—Pres., J. H. Lovell, care Telephone Co.; R. S., R. J. Joseph C. Hicks, Cripple Creek; F. S., John T. Walters, Cripple Creek.

**No. 53, Galveston, Tex.**—Meets 2d and 4th Thursdays, Cooks and Waiters' Hall, 22d st., between Market and Mechanic; Pres., J. F. Payne, 1528 22d st.; R. S., D. L. Goble, 3320 R. ½ st.; F. S., W. F. Cunningham, 2122 Ave. P. ½.

**No. 54, Waco, Tex.**—Meets every Saturday night at Labor Hall; Pres., J. R. Caple, 1018 N. 7th st.; R. S., G. R. Lockhart, 931 South 6th st.; F. S., Joseph Hodges, 728 S. 6th st.

**No. 55, Spokane, Wash.**—Meets 1st and 3d Wednesdays in K. of P. Hall, 816 Riverside av.; Pres., Eli Hensley, 218 Riverside av.; R. S., L. Van Isenberg, 919 Ash st.; F. S., D. Lorimer, 1723 Fifth av.

**No. 56, Winona, Minn.**—Pres., H. B. Klein, 510 Olmstead st.; R. S., P. F. Ostrom, 510 Olmstead st.; F. S., Joseph Trautner, 620 E. 3rd st.

**No. 57, Grand Rapids, Mich.**—Meets 1st and 3d Sundays; Pres., Jos. Newman, 16 Kentucky st.; R. S., C. M. Bur, 190 Sheldon st.; F. S., C. E. Post, 132 Winter st.

**No. 58, Tacoma, Wash.**—Pres., Wm. Kene, 1136 D st.; R. S., W. J. Love, 113 10th st.; F. S., Jas. Murray, 1118 D st.

**No. 59, Seattle, Wash.**—Pres., J. G. Mainland, 231 Pontius av.; R. S., S. Currie; F. S., J. J. Jenkins, 1319 14th av.

**No. 60, Chicago, Ill.**—Pres., W. J. McCormick, 7207½ St. Lawrence av.; F. S., George H. Folz, 351 W. Adams st.; R. S., W. T. Touner, 1479 Ohio st.

**No. 61, Norfolk, Va.**—Pres., C. W. Breedlove, 38 Falkland st., Norfolk, Va.; F. S., H. H. Marshall av.; F. S., E. M. Wey, 536 Main st.

**No. 62, Scranton, Pa.**—Pres., W. E. Clearywater, 345 Pear st.; F. S., B. C. Hackett, 114 N. Hyde Park av.

